



REPAIRING BODIES AND REBUILDING LIVES

INTERPLAST ANNUAL REPORT 2015/2016



InterplastTM

Repairing bodies & rebuilding lives
in the Asia Pacific region

REPAIRING BODIES AND REBUILDING LIVES

Interplast Australia & New Zealand (Interplast) is a not-for-profit organisation working to improve the lives of people in developing countries who are disabled as a result of congenital or acquired medical conditions. We do this by training and mentoring local medical and allied health professionals, building their capacity to provide high quality treatment. Interplast also provides plastic and reconstructive surgery services to people who would otherwise not be able to afford access to such services.

Our Vision

People in developing countries across the Asia Pacific region have timely access to high quality surgical, medical and allied health services.

Our Mission

To enhance people's health and wellbeing by enabling access to life-changing reconstructive surgery and related medical services.

Our Purpose

Repairing bodies, rebuilding lives.

Our Values

We respect the values, cultures and perspectives of the countries and people with whom we work.

In all our endeavours, Interplast remains independent of any political or religious affiliations.

We value and harness the support, input and contributions of our volunteers, donors, partners and staff.

Our Guiding Principles

Interplast delivers and enables surgical and related medical services of the highest standards where patient welfare is always of paramount concern.

Interplast is collaborative in its approach, building partnerships and fostering strategic alliances.

Interplast's development philosophy is underpinned by the fundamental principle that solutions, changes and impact should be sustainable and enduring.

Measuring and understanding the impact of Interplast initiatives is critical to all aspects of the Interplast strategy.

Accordingly, transparency, evaluation and accountability are embraced in all Interplast's undertakings.

Interplast responds to needs or opportunities as they arise and as its resources allow. In doing so, Interplast directs its resources and expertise to areas where it can achieve the greatest impact, ideally to those experiencing the greatest disadvantage.

(Extracted from Interplast Australia & New Zealand's Strategic Plan July 2013 - June 2018)



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A YEAR OF GROWTH AND POSITIVE CHANGE

A Message from the President



DAVID INGLIS

President

It is with great pleasure that I present the Interplast Annual Report for the 2015/2016 financial year – my final year as President of this wonderful organisation.

The past year has seen significant growth and positive change at Interplast. We have continued to increase our international programs offering surgical, training and allied health support to those countries we visit, reviewed our strategic plan and focused on succession planning, particularly at Board level.

Over the 2015/16 year, Interplast has delivered:

- 66 program activities across 16 countries in the Asia Pacific region, of which 14 were primarily surgical and 45 were training and mentoring. We also undertook a series of needs assessment visits and supported further capacity building in our partner countries.

- 1,003 surgical procedures and 1,348 patient consultations.
- 1,481 training opportunities particularly in the fields of surgery, anaesthetics, nursing and allied health.

Patient care remains our highest priority given the complexity of medical conditions we treat. This year our youngest patient was two months old, receiving a cleft lip repair, and our oldest patient was 85 years old, who had an operation to remove a head and neck cancer. Primarily, our work is about changing lives and this has again been achieved during the 2015/16 year.

During this year Interplast was privileged to have the support of 141 medical volunteers delivering our programs, in the surgical, anaesthetic, nursing and allied health areas. Of these, I am delighted that we have attracted 32 new participants in the past year, and note that a number of our volunteers participated in more than one program during the year. Overall, our medical volunteers contributed 1,482 days of their time on our program activities. Not only are our experienced teams increasing capacity in our partner countries, they are skilling additional teams from Australia and New Zealand to expand our ability to deliver life-changing outcomes.

Many things make Interplast strong, yet it is the volunteers that are key to our existence and the amazing work that is carried out through our programs. Without our volunteers, we would not exist. Interplast is incredibly fortunate to be in a position where we have more volunteers than we can send on programs.

As I reflect on the past 33 years since Interplast began its life-changing work, I am extremely proud to see that we have, over those years, carried out 882 programs with 41,854 consultations and 24,443 surgical procedures. Through the dedicated support and commitment of many, Interplast has achieved great things.

We are continuing to increase our focus on non-surgical aspects of our programs, recognising the critical importance of a 'whole team approach' to good surgical outcomes. While surgery is a major step in changing the lives and futures of our patients, there is also a great deal that can be done before and after surgery to ensure a better outcome - including nurse education, and allied health training in the fields of physiotherapy, speech pathology and burns management. Of course, all of these activities are delivered at the request of our local partners, and often in close collaboration with other like-minded organisations.

Looking to the future of Interplast it has been important to focus on succession planning and over the past year or so, we have brought a number of new directors to the Board to enhance the skills and expertise offered. New directors include Andrea Coote, Marie Dorrington, Hayley Morris and Rowan Gillies. Additional appointments are being considered as required.

Our Board is a dedicated team and highly passionate about the mission of Interplast. The Board not only dedicate their time to the business of Interplast at Board level, but become involved in many of its



activities including fundraising events. Two particular examples spring to mind being directors Keith Mutimer and Michael Leung raising significant funds for one of our major fundraising events, the Eureka Climb, and Hayley Morris participating in the Kokoda Trek, again raising substantial funds for Interplast.

I also wish to extend my thanks to the many organisations and groups of individuals who support Interplast. I must acknowledge the wonderful work of Interplast Ambassador, Turia Pitt. It has been a real privilege for me to get to know both her and her fiancé Michael, to see her personal strength and unwavering promotion of Interplast and the work we do.

I extend my thanks to the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, the Rotary Clubs across Australia and New Zealand that support us and all other organisations that provide their assistance to Interplast. To our corporate and individual supporters, foundations and other professional bodies, I express my sincere thanks for your support.

Having served as President of Interplast since 2009 and having served on the Board since 1984, this is my last report. Obviously, I have mixed feelings about leaving Interplast, however, I can look back and be extremely proud of where this organisation is today. It has grown from what could have been called a cottage industry to a highly respected, fully accredited organisation, undertaking extremely important and life-changing work in developing countries.

I am extremely grateful to the late Sir Benjamin Rank, former President of Interplast, for having the confidence to bring me on to the Board back in 1984 and subsequently Professor Donald Marshall AM, also a former long term President of Interplast, for again having the confidence in me to preside over Interplast for the past seven years. Needless to say I could not have done this, nor would Interplast be in the successful position it is today without the support of my fellow directors over the years and the Interplast office staff now led by our CEO Prue Ingram. The members of the Board and office staff should be commended for their passion and dedication.

David Inglis

President





PRUE INGRAM

Chief Executive Officer

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT ACROSS THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION

A Message from the CEO

In the past financial year Interplast has continued to develop and grow, expanding both the number and range of programs across the Asia Pacific region.

In reflecting on Interplast's many achievements, it is clear that these could only have happened through the contributions of many working together to change futures. This report acknowledges all of these different contributions, but I would like to highlight a few particular groups.

Our local partners are central to all of our efforts, and are always so welcoming to our teams. As well as ensuring that local partner needs drive our program activities and efforts, this year we have further strengthened these relationships by introducing an annual partner survey to use as the basis for longer-term planning.

Interplast's medical volunteers – our surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses and allied health professionals – are the backbone of our work. They give selflessly of their time and expertise, developing strong and enduring relationships across the Asia Pacific. A number also support us by their involvement in the Board, our Committees and working groups – providing clinical governance and support on our many program activities. It is a privilege to work together with them, and we've been developing ways to more formally

recognise our volunteers' contributions and improve their program experiences.

It's also wonderful to work alongside like-minded professional associations in helping to build support services across the countries we work in. An excellent example of these partnerships is the launch of the Lifebox Australia and New Zealand project – a collaboration with the Australian Society of Anaesthetists, the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, the New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists and the Lifebox Foundation. This partnership allows supporters to donate directly to provide pulse oximeters to hospitals across the Asia Pacific region, along with training for local staff.

Over the year, we continued to build our focus on, and commitment to, training and mentoring. This included advanced plastic surgical training in South East Asia including workshops in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, regional training programs in the Pacific, and scholarship opportunities for surgeons, nurses and anaesthetists to come to Australia for training.

Partnerships are also vital in helping us to expand our reach and to be able to respond to emerging needs in the countries we work in.

For example, building on our existing activities in Mongolia, the Bright Blue



Foundation provided funding for volunteers to undertake a needs assessment in Murun in the north of the country – this funding will also support Interplast to deliver a surgical and training program to this remote part of Mongolia early in the next financial year, providing much needed services.

In Papua New Guinea, a program review included assessments of hospitals in Wewak and Rabaul with a view to sending surgical teams there in the coming year, consolidating our ongoing commitment to provide surgical services in provincial regions.

I was part of the second stage of this review in June, meeting with various local medical, corporate and community partners.

The meetings were timed to coincide with a visit by a surgical mentoring program and as the Kokoda Trek, led by our inspiring ambassador Turia Pitt, arrived back in Port Moresby. This amazing group of people raised more than \$330,000 – our highest total for a trek yet. We are so grateful to all of them, and for Turia's ongoing support of our work.

Whilst our focus is rightly on recognising our medical volunteers who give freely of their time and talent, on a personal level, I would like to extend my thanks

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to the Board and the Interplast office team. They work tirelessly to ensure that our vital programs can be delivered, lead fundraising efforts, and meet increasingly complex regulatory and compliance standards in often challenging environments.

So much support, by so many – thank you all!

And finally, I would like to express my deep gratitude and appreciation to our retiring Board President, David Inglis. David has been part of the Interplast story from the very beginning, serving on the Board since 1984, and as our President since 2009. It is almost impossible to do justice in words to his tireless work for Interplast during

that time, and I am most grateful for his guidance and support in my time as CEO. I am sure that David will stay involved as an ongoing champion for our work.

As I reflect on the achievements of the past year, Interplast can be proud of its work and content in the knowledge that we are truly changing futures.

Prue Ingram

Chief Executive Officer

A MOST SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Program Highlights



IMPROVING *Post Operative Care*

Developed and delivered a successful ward nurse education program in Myanmar which has led to substantial improvements in post-operative care for patients.

Launched a number of new allied health training initiatives across the Pacific Islands (Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Tonga & Samoa) as part of a broader effort to improve post-operative recovery – through developing local skills in physiotherapy, speech pathology and hand therapy.

Undertook a comprehensive review of our Papua New Guinea programs, including needs assessments to two locations not visited for several years, and a review of the outcomes of 30 years of programs in Papua New Guinea.

Delivered the inaugural applied reconstructive surgical workshop in the Pacific Islands, the first of its kind for both Interplast and for Samoa. This project brought surgeons from around the Pacific Islands to Apia where they spent three days undertaking intensive training and mentoring in reconstructive surgical skills.



ADVANCING *Surgical Skills*

Piloted successful nurse education workshops in Fiji, in partnership with the Fiji National University and the Colonial War Memorial Hospital in Suva, to provide specific plastic surgery related nurse education to both nursing students and practicing nurses.

Witnessed great achievements in our microsurgical training programs in Bangladesh, where our local partners are now delivering several training programs a year independently of Interplast assistance.

Supported a number of surgical and anaesthetic trainees from around the Asia Pacific to undertake training placements in Australia, including from Nepal, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Fiji, Vanuatu and Indonesia.

Provided support to our local partners in Fiji following Tropical Cyclone Pam, through delivering a physiotherapy and surgical mentoring visit which focused on trauma caused by cyclone-related injuries.



ESTABLISHING *New Partnerships*

Launched the Lifebox Australia & New Zealand project, in support of ensuring safe surgery throughout the Asia Pacific region, in partnership with the Australian & New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, the Australian Society of Anaesthetists, the NZ Society of Anaesthetists and the Lifebox Foundation.

Delivered the first programs in breast care education in Solomon Islands, in response to a significant local need for early detection and treatment of breast cancer.

Continued to build our new program in Bhutan by delivering two surgical and hand therapy training programs across the year and working with local partners towards formalising plans.

Conducted a needs assessment in the regional Mongolian town of Murun, which paved the way for future training programs in burns treatment. With one in four children under the age of five in Mongolia suffering burn injuries, this training will be crucial in addressing treatable disability.

BUILDING CAPACITY IN BANGLADESH

245

*Bangladeshi
Doctors
Trained*

A new generation of microsurgeons



All Interplast programs have the end-goal of building local capacity – and hopefully, one day ‘doing ourselves out of a job’. In Bangladesh, where Interplast has been delivering programs since 2004, the Dhaka Medical College & Hospital is now running its own microsurgery training program, following a number of years of Interplast support setting up this sub-specialty. The microsurgery training program includes a basic course, an advanced course and a refresher course, all held over two days. The course is locally run and funded, with advisory support from a number of international surgeons, including Interplast volunteers.

In April, Interplast volunteer surgeon and Bangladesh Country Coordinator Russell Corlett returned to Dhaka for a week, joined by Professor Steve Morris from Canada, nurse educator Jan Rice and hand therapist Karen Fitt. The team delivered a busy and multi-faceted training program, which included perforator flap training for the surgeons, wound management education for the nurses, and workshops for the local allied health practitioners.

“Interplast is really helpful in furthering the development of burns care and plastic surgery in Bangladesh. They have already had some impact on our health services. The footsteps of Interplast in Bangladesh have boosted the spirit of young plastic surgeons.”

The program also included a number of surgeons and nurses from Nepal, who Interplast supported to travel across to Bangladesh to join the training program – further consolidating the regional approach to programs, which works very successfully in many instances.

For Russell, who has been on 22 Interplast programs since 1985, including ten to Bangladesh, the most inspiring aspect of his long involvement with Interplast’s programs in Bangladesh is seeing the local surgeons taking over the training which Interplast has previously delivered, and his role evolving to provide support for more advanced training.

“The local surgeons run courses every month or so, they have conducted 20 basic and advanced microsurgery courses, training 245 doctors, with the aim of teaching an organised step-by-step approach to success in microsurgery. There has been a steady increase in the number of microsurgical transfers over the last four years, demonstrating a significant improvement in their ability and confidence with these procedures. In 2010 they performed six free flaps, and by 2015, 42 free flaps.”

Bangladeshi plastic surgeon Dr Tanveer Ahmed has been involved with Interplast for a number of years. Of our programs in his country, he says, “Interplast is really helpful in furthering the development of burns care and plastic surgery in Bangladesh. They have already had some impact on our health services. The footsteps of Interplast in Bangladesh have boosted the spirit of young plastic surgeons.”



A POWERFUL PARTNERSHIP IN BHUTAN

Working together to build local plastic surgery

The Kingdom of Bhutan is a small, landlocked country in the Eastern Himalayas, bordering on China and India. Until the mid-20th century, Bhutan was largely isolated from the outside world, however, in recent decades the country has opened its doors and joined the global community. What is known of Bhutan to the outside world is that it has a spectacular, unspoiled natural environment and rich and unique cultural heritage, which has remained largely intact due to its relative isolation. The Government of Bhutan, emphasising the importance of spiritual and cultural aspects over economic development, introduced the concept of Gross National Happiness in 1972, which provides a framework for governance and development for the country.

Bhutan is Interplast's newest country partner – our programs there commenced in 2014, building on several years of work by South Australian surgeon Dr Phil Griffin and hand therapist Suzanne Caragianis, who had regularly visited to deliver hand surgery and hand therapy training. They approached Interplast, as they had identified the need for Bhutan to have access to broader plastic and reconstructive support.

Following a needs assessment undertaken by Interplast in 2014, we are now delivering two programs in Bhutan each year, in a formal partnership with the Government of Bhutan to develop plastic and reconstructive surgery for the country. This will include, in the longer term, helping to establish Bhutan's first plastic surgery unit and supporting the training of the required local personnel.

In April 2016, Interplast delivered its third surgery and training visit to Thimphu, including an outreach component to Mongar, in the Eastern Province.

The Interplast volunteer team was led by plastic and reconstructive surgeon Dr Tim Proudman, who was joined by surgeon Dr Anthony McDonald, anaesthetist Scott Fortey, nurses Jo Oxbrow and Vanessa Dittmar and hand therapists Suzanne Caragianis and Megan Fitzgerald. The visiting team worked closely with local surgeons, surgical trainees, anaesthetic staff, nurses and allied health professionals. The visit lasted two weeks, and during this time, the team consulted 156 patients, and provided 45 life-changing operations, as well as 111 hand therapy treatments. Extensive training was provided to local surgeons, nursing and anaesthetic staff and allied health professionals, building on the positive outcomes achieved on previous visits.



WE AIM

*To assist Bhutan
in establishing
its first plastic
surgery unit*

Local orthopaedic technician, Kuenzang Wangmo, spoke to the team about how she came to her role. "When I finished school, I didn't know what to do, but my friend told me about a position available for an orthopaedic technician. I didn't even know what it was! She applied for me, and I got in, and did the two years of training. In my work, I assist the orthopaedic surgeons in assessing new cases, assisting in the operating room, and even performing minor surgeries.

Dr Sonam (the local orthopaedic surgeon) appointed me to work with the visiting Interplast teams, and I have been doing so since they first came."

The value of these visits for the local medical personnel is great – the training, the sense of camaraderie, and the 'lead by example' approach of a visiting team who work well together.

"The Interplast team work so well together, and they help to reduce the workload for us. When they are not here, the local team have to manage, even for things they are not trained to do. Everyone feels happy when Interplast are coming. Many of the surgeries they do, and they are teaching us, we have never seen before. When we learn, we can do it. And next time, we can do it without you!" says Kuenzang.

For the patients treated by our teams, they are given an opportunity to change their future through access to surgery or hand therapy which will repair a congenital or acquired disability. And through the training being delivered to the local medical personnel, in the future, Bhutan will have their own trained professionals able to provide this treatment all year round.

One such patient was 15-month-old Thinley (pictured), a bright-eyed little boy from Thimphu, who was born with a congenital

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condition called macro-syndactyly, with symphalangism of the index and middle fingers on his right hand. This meant that some of his fingers were attached to each other, could not flex, and grew much faster than the other ones. The journey had been a hard one for Thinley's mum, Tshering, who explained "it was very painful and disheartening – I was scared he would have trouble later on." Tshering first brought her son to see the Interplast team in late 2015, and at that time, Interplast surgeon Dr Proudman suggested that the best course of action would be to amputate the two oversized fingers as they did not function, and would eventually prevent his other fingers from working properly. Amputating early would allow Thinley to adapt as he grew up.

Tshering was worried about amputating her son's fingers, so she wanted time to decide. "At first, I had a hope of getting his fingers reformed to a normal size," she told the team. "But then I realised this wasn't possible." When the team returned, Tshering decided to follow their advice, and Thinley had his operation. The two large fingers were removed and his hand was reconstructed to make it more of a normal size. "I think the surgery has helped him," said Tshering. "I will do whatever I can to support him later in life."

1,003



Surgical Procedures

1,348



Patient Consultations

OUR WORK IS ACROSS THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION

**1,481 TRAINING
OPPORTUNITIES
FACILITATED
THROUGH
INTERPLAST'S
PROGRAMS,
INCLUDING:**

7



*7 extended overseas
training placements
of more than
2 weeks*

364



*364 opportunities to
attend practical
workshops, both
in-country and
at overseas locations*



493



493 training opportunities within the operating theatre or on the ward

610



610 training opportunities through participation in lectures and presentations in-country

7



7 opportunities to attend and present at overseas conferences

TOGETHER, WE'RE STRONGER

Only by working alongside our incredible local partners, is Interplast able to repair bodies, rebuild lives and change futures. They are central to everything we do.



We would like to acknowledge all our local partners for their incredible commitment and thank them for their ongoing support.

The hospitals, training institutions and health centres who host our visiting surgical and training teams are vital to delivering our programs and achieving our mission.

The Australian embassies and high commissions in many of the countries in which we work provide invaluable support across every stage in organising our programs. This is not only with practicalities such as facilitating customs permits, sourcing interpreters and aiding with the shipment of supplies and equipment; they

also generate media coverage to raise awareness and support our visiting teams with formal and social events.

In many of our partner countries we are assisted by local government departments and officials who invite our teams to implement program activities in partnership with local hospitals and facilitate these arrangements.

Our programs involve a significant amount of work on the ground which our visiting teams or office staff cannot always facilitate alone. We are grateful to the local non-government organisations, businesses and community organisations in our partner countries who support us with

these aspects, such as referring patients to see our surgical teams, covering patient costs, providing follow-up rehabilitative care to those treated by our teams and helping to spread the word locally about our programs.

Finally, our vital partnership with Rotary extends beyond our supporting clubs and districts across Australia and New Zealand to the incredible in-country support provided by local clubs in our partner countries. They assist with logistics, promote our visits, invite our teams to present at their meetings and host functions while they are visiting.

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COUNTRY PARTNERS

Bangladesh

- Centre for Injury Prevention and Research, Bangladesh (CIPR,B)
- Centre for Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP)
- Dhaka Medical College Hospital
- Dhaka Community Hospital
- Acid Survivor's Foundation

Bhutan

- Jigme Dorji Wangchuck National Referral Hospital (JDWNRH)
- Eastern Regional Referral Hospital (Mongar)
- Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences of Bhutan
- Rotary Club of Thimphu

Fiji

- Colonial War Memorial Hospital
- Fiji National University
- Labasa General Hospital
- Lautoka General Hospital
- Rotary Club of Labasa
- Rotary Club of Lautoka
- Rotary Club of Suva North
- Ruel Foundation Fiji

Indonesia

- Batu Hijau Doctors Children Fund
- Indonesian Association of Plastic Surgeons (PERAPI)
- Kaltim Prima Coal (KPC)

Kiribati

- Tuarua Central Hospital
- Tobaraoi Travel

Laos

- Cooperative Orthotic and Prosthetic Enterprise (COPE)
- Laos Mongolian Friendship Hospital
- Mahosot Hospital
- Phu Bia Mining
- Women's International Group (WIG)

Mongolia

- Mongolian Society of Anaesthesiologists (MSA)
- Traumatology and Orthopaedic Research Centre Hospital
- Khovsgol United Hospital

Myanmar

- Yangon General Hospital
- University of Medicine 1, Yangon

Nepal

- Model Hospital

Philippines

- Benguet General Hospital
- Filminera (Phil Gold)
- Masbate Provincial Hospital
- JR Borja Memorial Hospital
- Rotary Club of Cagayan de Oro

Papua New Guinea

- Angau Memorial Hospital
- Modilon General Hospital
- Nonga General Hospital
- Wewak General Hospital
- MoniPlus
- Port Moresby General Hospital
- TNT Kenmore
- University of PNG's School of Medical Sciences
- Rotary Club of Boroko

Samoa

- Tuapa Tamasese Meaole Hospital
- Rotary Club of Apia
- Scope Global

Solomon Islands

- National Referral Hospital
- Rotary Club of Honiara

Sri Lanka

- Colombo National Hospital
- National Army Hospital

Tonga

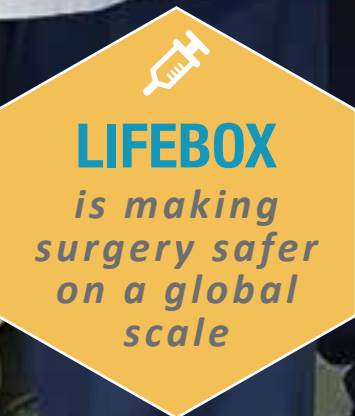
- Vaiola Central Hospital
- Rotary Club of Nuku'alofa

Vanuatu

- Port Vila General Hospital

Vietnam

- Cho Ray Hospital
- Da Nang Hospital



*is making
surgery safer
on a global
scale*

INTRODUCING LIFEBOX AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Lifebox Australia & New Zealand is a joint regional project developed to ensure access to life-saving monitoring during surgery, through the purchase and distribution of pulse oximeters to hospitals across the Asia Pacific region. The project also focuses on training local personnel in the use and maintenance of the pulse oximeters.

During this year, Interplast was very excited to launch a new initiative, 'Lifebox Australia & New Zealand' in partnership with Lifebox Foundation, the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA), the Australian Society of Anaesthetists (ASA), and the New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists (NZSA).

Building on the work of the Lifebox Foundation in the UK and USA, this project complements Interplast's focus of working across the Asia Pacific to deliver safe surgical and training programs which will build better health systems – making surgery and anaesthesia safer on a global scale. Interplast's involvement in this project is multi-faceted – identifying areas of need through visiting surgical and training teams and local partner networks,

“Thanks to Lifebox for the oximeters and accessories, which will help to provide safer anaesthetic services for patients in Vanuatu.”

Dr Leepo - Consultant anaesthetist at the Northern Provincial Hospital in Luganville

significance that it is listed towards the top of the World Health Organisation's Surgical Safety Checklist. Through the involvement of Lifebox Australia & New Zealand, the equipment is delivered to hospitals and practitioners who require them, along with the educational material to train users.

providing supplementary training to local anaesthetists and managing the donations.

A pulse oximeter is the most important monitoring tool in modern anaesthesia practice. It is a non-invasive medical device that checks the level of oxygen in a patient's bloodstream and sounds an alarm as soon as it detects the slightest unsafe change. The item is of such

The focus of Lifebox is the provision of pulse oximeters with affordable and sustainable probes, into hospitals in developing countries, as part of a broader objective of ensuring safe surgery. Interplast is proud to play a role in ensuring the ongoing development of safe surgical practice through its involvement in this initiative.

Find out more at www.interplast.org.au

“A Lifebox pulse oximeter saved the day when it arrived in time, as one of the pulse oximeter probes in an operating room was malfunctioning. The Lifebox oximeter enabled the operating room to continue to function normally. We thank Lifebox Australia & New Zealand for their generous donation which will contribute enormously to the delivery of safe anaesthesia in Fiji.”

- Dr Luke Nasadera (anaesthetist, pictured left)

A COMMITMENT TO LEARNING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Interplast knows that performing surgery in developing countries is only part of the way to achieve our mission. A commitment to learning and professional development through the delivery of our scholarship program is fundamental to achieving a sustainable pool of medical leaders.

During 2015/16 we provided a range of professional development opportunities for overseas medical personnel, supporting them to undertake invaluable training and networking with their overseas peers. These opportunities included training attachments where Interplast supported individuals to travel from their base location to participate in a training activity or conference, or to join an Interplast surgical or training team. In many instances, Interplast volunteers also support these training placements in Australia and New Zealand.

Activity	Overseas Medical Personnel
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) (Brisbane), supported by the Marshall International Scholarship (three people) and the Baker Foundation (one person)	Dr Bishal Karki (Nepal), Dr Semesa Matanaicake (Fiji), Dr Djohan Wirawan (Indonesia), Dr Myitzu Win (Myanmar)
Anaesthesia professional development (Ballarat) supported by Interplast volunteer John Oswald	Dr Retti Kartika Bakti and Dr Regina Agustantina (Indonesia)
Allied Health (physiotherapy) professional development placement in Hobart and Melbourne, supported by Interplast volunteers Jennifer Ball and Sharon Goldby	Ms Alena Lawena (Fiji)
Plastic surgery observership placement (Perth and Melbourne), through the Sir Benjamin Rank scholarship, supported by Interplast volunteers Mark Duncan-Smith, Kirstie MacGill and Frank Lin	Dr Samuel Kemuel (Vanuatu)
Support for attendance at the Australian and New Zealand Burn Association (ANZBA) annual conference in Melbourne	Dr Animesh Biswar (Bangladesh)
Six-week intensive nurse training placement in Melbourne, supported by Interplast volunteers Amphil Badra, Zoe Devenish and Michael Leung	Ms San San Maw (Myanmar)
Two-week intensive observational training placement in Melbourne for one surgeon and one anaesthetist, supported by Interplast volunteer Damien Grinsell	Dr Pradeep Rajbhandari and Dr Surendra Basnet (Nepal)
Emergency Management of Severe Burns training in Bangladesh (supporting Nepalese participants to attend)	Ms Pranita Maharjan, Ms Urusha Dhangul, Dr Arun Budha and Dr Piyush Giri (Nepal)
Interplast microsurgical training program in Bangladesh (supporting Nepalese surgeons to attend)	Dr Kiran Kishore Nakarmi, Dr Krishna Nagarkoti and Dr Piyush Giri (Nepal)
Interplast nurse education program in Bangladesh (supporting Nepalese nurses to attend)	Ms Binu Shrestha, Ms Sujita Maharjan, Ms Reena Gauchan and Ms Januka Dhital (Nepal)

To learn more about Interplast's scholarship opportunities visit www.interplast.org.au

BEYOND FACTS AND FIGURES

Our Commitment to Monitoring and Evaluation

Looking at the amazing surgical and training outcomes delivered by our volunteer teams across the Asia Pacific, it is not hard to see the impact that our programs have.

As demonstrated through the many stories and statistics included in this annual report, as well as the anecdotal evidence we have, we know we are on track to meet our goals and objectives.

However, as a professional, fully DFAT accredited and ACFID compliant international development organisation, it is important that Interplast has strong monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in place to assess the success of our programs, learn from outcomes and ensure continuous improvement.

Interplast utilises a comprehensive framework, that outlines how we approach the monitoring and evaluation of our programs, including the tools we use to capture outputs and outcomes, and how lessons learned are incorporated into future program planning.

For all individual program activities, Interplast teams complete comprehensive reporting on the program and its outcomes. This complements clinical information captured through patient records, as well as documentation around training participants and topics. Local partners provide feedback on each activity, including local coordinators and trainees completing individual reports, as well as participants of training workshops completing evaluations. Reports are also completed by Interplast's program coordinators, covering logistical, financial and operational aspects of the activity.

Reports from each individual program activity are reviewed in line with Interplast's clinical guidelines, through Interplast's Nurse Working Group, Allied Health Working Group and

Surgical Committee (depending on the focus of the program), including any challenges or issues experienced, and any recommendations made for future programs. Recommendations are documented and are reviewed ahead of future programs to ensure that they are incorporated where possible into ongoing planning.

For example, it has been identified over recent years that there is a substantial lack of local capacity and resources in the Pacific Islands for post-operative rehabilitation, and in response to this, Interplast is now delivering a number of allied health training programs. Likewise, in Myanmar, substantial gaps in the post-operative nursing care of complex microsurgical patients has led to the development of a ward nurse education program which runs concurrently to surgical training activities.

Building on the success of targeted local partnerships for supporting program logistics, Interplast is continuing to build local linkages with corporate supporters. Through South East Asia, the successful model of advanced surgical mentoring in countries such as Bangladesh and Sri Lanka is now being replicated in Vietnam and plans are in place to investigate similar options in Laos. Building on the success of regional training in the Pacific Islands, Interplast is also looking to build regional training hubs across South East Asia.

On an annual basis, Interplast undertakes a comprehensive country planning process for each of our 17 partner countries. Through this process, staff work closely with local partners and volunteer country coordinators to review the previous year's programs and plan for the coming year. Local partners are invited to complete an online survey



which enables them to provide formal feedback and suggestions for future program areas, and individual activities are reviewed from a whole-of-program approach. Interplast's Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group reviews the annual country program plans prior to them being reviewed by the Surgical Committee, which recommends them to the Board for approval.

Interplast's Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group meets at least four times per year to review various areas of the organisation, including programs, finances and fundraising and communications.

Each year, Interplast identifies specific countries or programs which are due for a more comprehensive evaluation. In the 2015/16 financial year, Interplast undertook a comprehensive evaluation of its programs in Papua New Guinea, where we have been working for over 30 years. This evaluation looked at inputs, outputs and outcomes, lessons learned, and future directions for Interplast in PNG.





2015/16: OUR WORK ACROSS THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION

This year, we have delivered a diverse range of program activities. From plastic and reconstructive surgical programs to training and mentoring activities, it's all part of our efforts to build sustainable health systems for the future.



Bangladesh

Country coordinator: **Mr Russell Corlett**

Interplast undertook five activities in Bangladesh.

Interplast supported the participation of a Bangladeshi surgeon in the Australian and New Zealand Burn Association (ANZBA) conference in Melbourne, where he was able to present his research and strengthen professional networks.

In conjunction with ANZBA, Interplast supported our local partner, the Centre for Injury Prevention and Research, Bangladesh (CIPRB), to implement an Emergency Management of Severe Burns (EMSB) workshop.

Following the comprehensive evaluation of Interplast's Bangladesh country program that was undertaken in 2015, we continued to support the development of advanced microsurgery training through workshop

and in-theatre instruction focused on perforator flaps. Alongside this, Interplast also delivered training in hand therapy and nurse education.

3 patient consultations

3 surgical procedures

5 mentoring/training activities

Bhutan

Country coordinator: **Dr Phillip Griffin**

Interplast undertook four program activities in Bhutan.

With continued strong support from the Bhutan Ministry of Health and the Jigme Dorji Wangchuck National Referral Hospital, Interplast delivered concurrent surgical training and hand therapy mentoring activities in November and April

(including an outreach visit to the eastern town of Mongar during the latter visit). Each of the surgical activities included two surgeons, an anaesthetist and two nurses, as well as one or two hand therapists delivering training at the same time. Both programs were a great success, consulting 275 patients and undertaking 68 operations, while also providing extensive training in general plastics principles, hand surgery and hand therapy to local medical personnel. There were 168 treatments provided as part of the hand therapy training.

Our local partners in Bhutan are eager to set up their own plastic surgery unit with Interplast's support and we are excited about the prospects for this new program.

275 patient consultations

68 surgical procedures

168 hand therapy treatments

4 training activities

Fiji



Country coordinator: **Mr Simon Thomson**

Interplast undertook five program activities in Fiji.

Two of these were surgical and training visits, one each to Suva and Labasa. In Suva, a team of five volunteers spent one week at the Colonial War Memorial Hospital (CWMH) working closely with local surgeons, anaesthetists and nurses to provide 55 consultations and 29 operations, while providing substantial training for local personnel. In Labasa, a team of six volunteers spent one week at the Labasa General Hospital, where they saw 72 patients and undertook 32 operations.

Interplast also delivered a plastic surgical and allied health mentoring visit to Suva, where a volunteer surgeon and physiotherapist spent a week working closely with the local Fijian team to provide support for their more difficult cases. During this visit, four patients with complex injuries related to Tropical Cyclone Winston were consulted and operated on.

Interplast continued its important capacity-building work around physiotherapy and speech therapy, delivering the first formalised training workshop for physiotherapy in partnership with Fiji National University, including all fourth-year physiotherapy students. This marked a great milestone in providing formal curriculum support to the university.

Similarly, Interplast also delivered a two-part nurse training workshop in Suva, with two volunteer nurse educators delivering a three-day program to the undergraduate nursing students and another two nurse educators delivering a program to the postgraduate (practising) nurses from the CWMH.

Interplast supported Fijian plastic surgeon

Dr Semesa Matanaicake to attend the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) Annual Scientific Congress (ASC) as a Marshall International Scholar.

131 patient consultations

65 surgical procedures

2 surgical activities

3 training activities

Indonesia



Country coordinator: **Mr Ian Carlisle**

Interplast undertook two programs for Indonesia.

Interplast supported two Indonesian anaesthetic registrars, Dr Retti Kartika and Dr Regina Agustantina, from Airlangga University and Dr Soetomo Hospital in Surabaya, to undertake a professional development and mentoring placement at Ballarat Health Services with long-term Interplast volunteer Dr John Oswald.

Through the Marshall International Scholarship, Interplast supported Dr Djohan Wirawan from Balikpapan to attend the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) Annual Scientific Congress, where he had the opportunity to meet with many of his Australian and New Zealand peers and attend a number of lectures and workshops, as well as presenting to the audience on his own experiences working with Interplast in Indonesia.

Interplast continued to work with the Indonesian Ministry of Health and local partners to enable us to resume surgical activities in the country, with negotiations regarding a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry taking place. Significant support has been

provided to Interplast during this process by Basoeki Koesasi (Interplast volunteer Indonesian liaison officer), Dr Asrofi Surachman, Yuliana Datu Bua and Shane Bennett (Kaltim Prima Coal).

2** training activities

Kiribati



Country coordinator: **Mr Miklos Pohl**

Interplast undertook two activities in Kiribati.

Following last year's successful nurse training visits, Interplast again delivered a ward nurse education program.

This involved two visits, in November and March. Two Interplast volunteer nurse educators spent a week on each occasion facilitating the intensive five-day training programs for the i-Kiribati ward nurses. The training focused on pre-and post-operative care, basic life support training, wound management and ward administration. All nurses showed significant improvement in their post-training tests.

Unfortunately Interplast was unable to deliver the planned surgical program to Kiribati in early 2016 due to cyclone warnings affecting flights, but this has been rescheduled for November 2016.

2 training activities



Laos

Country coordinator: **Mr Philip Slattery**

Interplast undertook three activities in Laos.

In November, a team of six Interplast volunteers, along with a local team from Mahosot Hospital in Vientiane, completed a two-week surgical program activity in Phonsavan, at the Lao Mongolian Friendship Hospital, focused primarily on burns management and cleft repair. 93 patients received consultations and 70 received surgery. This program gave local patients an opportunity to receive specialised surgery, whilst providing significant training and mentoring opportunities for more than 10 medical personnel from the Mahosot and Lao Mongolian Friendship hospitals.

In February, an Interplast team undertook a two-week program in Vientiane that focused on complex reconstructive burns surgery; 176 patients were consulted and 88 received surgery. This team included a volunteer hand therapist who provided crucial training in rehabilitation for burns patients as well as clinical support for the surgical team.

269 patient consultations

158 surgical procedures

2 surgical activities

1 training activity

Mongolia

Country coordinator: **Dr David Pescod**

Interplast undertook three activities in Mongolia.

In February, an Interplast team visited Murun in northern Mongolia, to conduct a regional needs assessment with a view to delivering a general plastic and reconstructive surgical program later in the year.

Continuing its long-term institutional support of the Mongolian Society of Anaesthesiologists (MSA), Interplast, in partnership with the Australian Society of Anaesthetists, provided financial support for the operational costs of the MSA's training and education centre. It also provided support for the annual MSA Conference, which provides training and professional development for anaesthetists throughout Mongolia. This year, Interplast supported 13 Australian volunteer anaesthetists to attend the conference to lead presentations and facilitate workshops.

1 training activity

1 institutional support activity

1 planning and evaluation activity

Myanmar

Country coordinator:
Professor Michael Leung

Interplast undertook seven activities in Myanmar.

Interplast delivered three surgical mentoring programs to the Yangon General Hospital in Myanmar, in September, February and May. These visits focused on complex reconstructive surgery of the head and neck and lower limbs, as well as some complex burn cases. As part of this clinical mentoring, 55 patients received assessment and consultation and 37 operations were completed.

Plastic surgeons, and surgical trainees were all integrally involved in patient selection, consultation and operations, as well as post-operative care. As well as the clinical mentoring, each visit included specific workshop and lecture sessions for the surgeons, surgical trainees and other local doctors, including anaesthetic personnel.

Running alongside each of these visits was an education program focused on supporting the ward nurses. This was developed at the request of local partners concerned about the post-operative care for complex reconstructive surgical patients. Each of these education programs involved 12-20 local nurses.

In early 2016, Interplast supported a senior ward nurse from Yangon to undertake a six-week training placement in Melbourne, at the Dandenong Hospital and The Alfred Hospital, supervised by Interplast volunteer nurse educators from each institution. She then returned to Yangon, and subsequent visiting teams have noted significant improvements to local nursing care following her training.

Finally, early in 2016, Myanmar plastic surgical trainee Dr Myitzu Win completed a 12-month training placement in Melbourne, supervised by Associate Professor Michael Leung. Interplast supported Dr Win to return to Australia to participate in and present at the RACS ASC in Brisbane in May.

55 patient consultations

37 surgical procedures

7 training activities

Nepal

Country coordinator: **Mr Damien Grinsell**

Interplast undertook five activities for Nepal.

While Interplast continued to work closely with partners in Nepal to address changes in visa requirements which have prevented our teams from delivering local programs this year, we maintained training objectives for Nepalese surgeons and nurses through supporting them to participate in Interplast activities in neighbouring Bangladesh, and through mentoring and professional development opportunities in Australia.

In March, Interplast sponsored a Nepalese surgeon and anaesthetist to come to Australia to receive training. They visited two hospitals and observed roughly 20 complex microsurgery cases.

Also in March, Interplast supported three surgeons and four nurses from the Kathmandu Model Hospital to attend Emergency Management of Severe Burns training in Bangladesh. Three surgeons received microsurgery training at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Additionally, four Nepalese nurses participated in the Interplast nurse education workshops conducted concurrently in Dhaka.

In May, Nepalese surgeon Dr Bishal Karki was awarded Interplast's Marshall International Scholarship, which enabled him to attend the RACS Annual Scientific Congress in Brisbane. This provides a great learning opportunity, as well as networking opportunities. Dr Karki gave a brief presentation about the differences between practising in Australia and Nepal and highlighted the benefits Interplast's work has had on their local community.

Throughout the year Interplast provided institutional support to our local partners in Nepal to undertake four independent microsurgery cases.

4 training and mentoring activities

1 institutional support activity



Papua New Guinea

Country coordinator: **Mr Simon Donahoe**

Interplast undertook six activities in Papua New Guinea (PNG).

In July, two of Interplast's volunteer surgeons spent a week in Port Moresby providing training and mentoring to PNG surgeon and plastics trainee Dr Morath Maire and several of his colleagues. This visit involved patient assessments, in-theatre training and formal lectures; 15 patients were assessed and five had life-changing surgery as part of the clinical training.

In October, Interplast performed the first of a two-step visit to PNG to carry out a comprehensive country evaluation. This visit included consultations with key local stakeholders.

In February, a team of six volunteers spent a week in Lae, providing general plastic and reconstructive surgical services and training to local medical and nursing staff. The team conducted 32 consultations and 21 surgical procedures. Numerous local medical personnel received training as part of the visit.

In May, a small team (including a nurse, an anaesthetist and a surgeon) delivered a mentoring program to Port Moresby, working again with Dr Maire and his peers.

The team consulted 23 patients and completed six surgical procedures. Substantial training was also delivered in ward nursing and anaesthetics.

Also in May, an Interplast volunteer surgeon spent four days in Madang, undertaking a mentoring visit focused primarily on complex hand surgery. The surgeon worked closely with PNG plastic surgeon Dr John Maihua and his team, who received considerable in-theatre training; seven patients were consulted, five receiving surgery.

In June, Interplast performed the second of a two-part visit to PNG to carry out a comprehensive country evaluation. As well as meetings with stakeholders, this visit included assessment of new hospitals. From this evaluation, Interplast and local partners have developed clear plans for the next three to five years in PNG.

77 patient consultations

37 surgical procedures

1 surgical activity

3 training activities

2 planning and evaluation activities

Philippines



Country coordinator: **Mr Kevin Ho**

Interplast undertook three activities in the Philippines.

In August, a team of seven volunteers undertook the annual two-week program to Cagayan De Oro, based at the JR Borja Memorial Hospital. This program was a surgical visit focused primarily on repairing cleft lips and palates; 77 patients received consultations and 69 operations were performed.

In November, a team of seven volunteers spent two weeks at the Benguet General Hospital in Baguio City, undertaking a plastic and reconstructive surgical program focused on cleft lip and palate repairs, skin grafting and releasing of burns scar contractures. 64 patients were consulted and, from these, 75 operations were performed. This trip facilitated further training for two local surgeons and 30 local nurses.

In February, a team of seven volunteers (including the Children First Foundation scholarship recipient) spent two weeks at Masbate Provincial Hospital, undertaking a plastic and reconstructive surgical program focused on cleft lip and palate repairs, among other things. 65 patient consultations were carried out, and from these 78 operations were performed. The program continues to be possible due to a partnership with Filminera, a local mining corporation. This trip facilitated recovery and post-operative care training for ten local nurses.

206 patient consultations

222 surgical procedures

3 surgical activities

Samoa

Country coordinator: **Dr Benjamin Norris**

Interplast undertook four activities in Samoa.

In December, a team of three volunteers completed a week-long general plastic and reconstructive surgical program activity in Apia. In total, 18 of the 31 patients consulted underwent an operation. Samoan surgical trainees worked closely with the team for the duration of the visit, and were given substantial clinical training by the Interplast surgeon. Local anaesthetic and nursing staff also received training and mentoring, both in the operating theatre and on the wards. A physiotherapist carried out a concurrent allied health assessment and training visit during the Interplast surgical visit to Apia. Three local physiotherapy staff received training from the Interplast physiotherapist.

Samoa hosted the first Interplast regional clinical flap workshop in April 2016. 14 Pacific surgeons attended the workshop, supported by four Interplast volunteers, one Interplast staff member and a photographer, who is developing filmed procedures into training videos. The workshop comprised six formal workshops and six patients were assessed, with three operations used as teaching cases.

In May, an Interplast speech pathologist carried out a needs assessment and mentoring visit in Apia; this visit provided training to local allied health personnel.

37 patient consultations

21 surgical procedures

1 surgical activity

3 training activities



Solomon Islands



Country coordinator: **Dr Zac Moaveni**

Interplast undertook six activities in the Solomon Islands.

In July, Interplast sent a team of three educators (two nurses and a podiatrist) to spend a week in Honiara for the first of a two-part nurse education visit for 2015/16. The team worked with 13 local nurses (including one nurse educator), providing essential training focusing on patient assessment and documentation, basic life support, ward organisation, wound care and management.

In February, Interplast sent another team of three nurse educators, including a breast care nurse. This team worked with 22 local nurses (including two nurse educators) to build on the objectives of the previous visit, as well as education on breast cancer and breast self-examination. A follow-up nurse education course was delivered in late June.

Interplast's annual surgical visit to Honiara took place in June with a team of five Interplast volunteers. The visit provided general plastic and reconstructive services and training for local surgeons, anaesthetists and nurses. Of the 51 patients consulted, 36 surgical procedures were completed. A volunteer Interplast physiotherapist carried out a concurrent allied health assessment and mentoring visit during the surgical and training visit in Honiara.

51 patient consultations

36 surgical procedures

1 surgical activity

5 training activities



Sri Lanka

Country coordinator: **Mr Randall Sach**

Interplast undertook three programs to Sri Lanka.

Two of these were high-level reconstructive surgical mentoring, the first focused on head and neck reconstructive surgery, and the second on paediatric hand surgery.

The first took place in November 2015 with two volunteer Interplast surgeons spending a week in Colombo at the National Hospital, where they worked closely with local plastic surgeons and surgical trainees in patient consultations, a small number of teaching cases, and several lectures and workshops. During this visit, 19 patients were consulted and three had operations.

In mid-2016, a paediatric hand surgery (microsurgery) mentoring visit was delivered, this time with two volunteer plastic surgeons and one anaesthetist. This team again spent one week at the National Hospital in Colombo, working through several teaching cases as well as delivering lectures and workshops. 47 patients were assessed and 16 operations completed as teaching cases for the local surgeons. At the same time, Interplast delivered a paediatric hand therapy training visit, working with local physiotherapists and occupational therapists within the hospital.

66 patient consultations

19 surgical procedures

3 training activities

Tonga

Country coordinator: **Mr David Morgan**

Interplast undertook three activities in Tonga.

In early December 2015, a team of four volunteers completed the annual one-week general plastic and reconstructive surgical program activity in Nuku'alofa. In total, 70 patients were consulted and 49 operations were completed. Tongan surgeons, surgical registrars and nursing staff received training and mentoring both in the operating theatre and on the wards.

Running parallel to this program was an allied health needs assessment and mentoring visit, with one Interplast volunteer physiotherapist working with local physio staff to provide training and assess opportunities for future Interplast support in this area.

Interplast partnered with the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists to deliver an Essential Pain Management (EPM) workshop in Nuku'alofa in the lead-up to the surgical visit, providing training for local anaesthetic and nursing personnel.

70 patient consultations

49 surgical procedures

1 surgical activity

2 training activities

Vanuatu

Country coordinator: **Mr Ian Holten**

Interplast undertook three activities in Vanuatu.

In the absence of Interplast's annual surgical and training visit to Port Vila in the 2014/15 financial year due to a lack of funding, Interplast was pleased to carry out a surgical and training visit in October. This visit was complemented by a concurrent allied health assessment and training visit. Subsequent surgical and allied health mentoring visits have been scheduled for the second half of 2016.

In total, 44 patients were consulted and 35 received an operation. Numerous local surgeons, anaesthetists and nurses received both formal and informal training during the Interplast visit.

Ni-Vanuatu surgical registrar Dr Sam Kemuel participated in an Australian observational placement from February to March, in Perth and Melbourne, supported by Interplast volunteer surgeons in these cities, through the Sir Benjamin Rank scholarship. A special thanks to Sam and Mary Gray for their support of this program.

44 patient consultations

35 surgical procedures

1 surgical activity

2 training activities

Vietnam

Country coordinator: **Dr James Masson**

Interplast is pleased to soon be recommencing programs in Vietnam after changes to the licensing requirements for foreign NGOs to work in the country. Due to the lengthy and complex processes involved in obtaining this licence, programs were put on hold for 2015/16; however, two mentoring visits are scheduled for the next financial year.

*** Note that while we have mentioned the surgeons who were supported to attend the RACS Annual Scientific Congress in Brisbane (from Nepal, Indonesia and Fiji), we have counted this support only once in the number of activities against Indonesia as Interplast considers this one activity across three countries.*



FROM OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

Local partners highlight the impact of Interplast's work



**Dr Thushan Beneragama,
Sri Lanka**

"Interplast started their first program in Sri Lanka in 2001, initially with a service component. Later on they started training local surgeons both locally and in Australia in fields such as hand surgery, microsurgery, general plastics and craniofacial surgery. Now they mainly focus on both basic and advanced training and mentoring programs. Due to these programs, plastic surgery is the main sub-specialty to have developed so rapidly in the past 10 years, and has helped us to attract more trainees for this specialty."



**Samuel Kemuel,
Vanuatu**

"The opportunity to observe many different hospitals and clinics in Australia taught me the importance of working as a team for the good of the patient. I also learned important principles which will help us to set up and run a plastic surgery unit in Vanuatu."



**Dr Rooney Jagilly,
Solomon Islands**

"Interplast has been of great help to the people of Solomon Islands over many years. They provide service that would otherwise not have been available in the country. They are also training our nurses and doctors to gain extra skills and knowledge so that the local staff can continue to provide services when the team is not here. We are thankful and are pleased with what has been done and wish to have the partnership continue."



**Hab Dorji,
Bhutan**

"We are happy to be associated with Interplast, and teams from Interplast have not only rescued many individuals from probable disability but also have brought in skill and technology transfer to our hospital. We really appreciate the efforts put in by Interplast to plan and mobilise the resources for the programs."



**Dr Tanveer Ahmed,
Bangladesh**

"Interplast is really helpful in furthering the development of burns care and plastic surgery in Bangladesh. They have already had some impact on our health services. The footsteps of Interplast in Bangladesh have boosted the spirit of young plastic surgeons."



**Dr Shankar Rai,
Nepal**

"Interplast has made microsurgery possible in Nepal by training surgeons, anaesthetists and nurses in a holistic approach. We want to thank Interplast for this great help."

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

The following individuals have given of their time and talent on our overseas programs throughout the year. Together, they are the heart and soul of Interplast.

Volunteers 2015/16

Aisling Burgess *	Frank Lin *	Max Majedi *	Shirley Collocott *
Alan Goodey	Gill Bathgate ^	Mbene Letsamao	Sian Fairbank
Alan Wallace	Glenn Bartlett	Megan Fitzgerald	Siddharth Karanth *
Allysan	Helen Chadwick	Michael Henwood *	Simon Donahoe ^
Armstrong-Brown *	Ian Hogarth	Michael Leung ^	Simon Thomson
Amanda Baric	Ian Richardson *	Michael Lo	Simone Nast-Clarke
Amanda Nitschke	James Leong	Michael McGlynn	Sophie Ricketts
Amphil Badra	James Savundra ^	Michael Thomson	Stephen Leung
Amutha Samuel *	Jan Rice ^	Mike Klaassen	Steve Morris *
Anand Ramakrishnan	Jan Sloan	Miklos Pohl	Sue Graham ^
Anthony Kirkwood	Janek Januszkiewicz	Mirjam Bar	Suzanne Caragianis
Anthony McDonald	Jennifer Ball ^	Moirra Rush ^	Suzanne Thomas
Ashit Das ^	Jennifer Reilly *	Nelly Hartley	Suzy Cook
Ben Norris	Jo Oxbrow ^	Nicole King	Tamsin Supple *
Beth McNeish	Jo Paver *	Nikki Frescos ^	Tanja Perera
Beth Taylor *	John de Waal	Paul Birrell	Tim Proudman ^
Bruce Johnstone	John McCarty	Peggy Yip *	Tipu Aamir *
Cecilia Delgado *	Karen Biviano *	Peter Haertsch	Vanessa Dittmar ^
Charles Baillieu ^	Karen Fitt	Peter Maloney	Vanessa Holohan *
Chris Bennett	Katie Anjou *	Philip Owen *	Vernon Moo ^
Chris Hunter ^	Kay Suter	Philip Slattery	William Blake
Chris Lowry	Kevin Ho	Philippa Hall	Woodrow Wilson #
Chris Wheeler	Kirstie MacGill	Philippa Tesselaar *	Yuan Chang *
Christopher Coombs	Kristen Da Costa *	Phillip Ragg	Yugesh Caplash *
Christopher Mitchell *	Leah Lynch Rurehe *	Raminder Dhillon	Zac Moaveni ^
Craig MacKinnon	Leona Leong	Rebecca Weda *	Zoe Devenish
Daisy Sargent ^	Leonie Simmons ^	Robert Grace	
Damian Marucci	Linda Ferguson	Roger Goucke	
David Pescod ^	Linda Fredheim *	Russell Corlett	
David Vyse	Lindsay McBride	Saathi Seevanayagam	
David Ying	Liz Bashford	Sally Anne Mitchell	
Debra Devonshire	Louise Kimber *	Sally McKelvie	
Debra Leung *	Mae Chen	Samantha Jervios ^	
Deirdre McGlynn	Mansoor Mirkazemi	Sarah Bennell	
Edmund Ek ^	Margaret Goodrick	Sarah Florisson ^	
Elyse Coffey *	Mark Gittos *	Scott Fortey ^	
Emma Fernandes	Mark Moore *	Shannon Bailey	
Eugene Lim *	Mark Strahan	Shannon Muir	
Frank Kimble	Mary-Jane Laing	Sharon Goldby	

Key:

* Denotes volunteer who participated in an Interplast activity for the first time in FY16

^ Denotes volunteer who participated in more than one activity in FY16

Denotes non-medical volunteers who were involved in program activities



“ Plastic and reconstructive surgical services provided to our people by Interplast have brought out hidden smiles and tears of happiness. The surgeries have changed their lives forever.”

– Dr Scott Siota, Solomon Islands

Our country programs are supported by an incredibly passionate team of volunteer Country Coordinators. In addition to giving of their time to program activities, this dedicated team provide advice and input into program planning, monitoring and evaluation.

Country Coordinators 2015/16

Bangladesh	Mr Russell Corlett
Bhutan	Dr Philip Griffin
Fiji	Mr Simon Thomson
Indonesia	Mr Ian Carlisle
Kiribati	Mr Miklos Pohl
Laos	Mr Philip Slattery
Mongolia	Dr David Pescod
Myanmar	Professor Michael Leung
Nepal	Mr Damien Grinsell
Papua New Guinea	Mr Simon Donahoe
Philippines	Mr Kevin Ho
Samoa	Dr Benjamin Norris
Solomon Islands	Dr Zac Moaveni
Sri Lanka	Mr Randall Sach
Tonga	Mr David Morgan
Vanuatu	Mr Ian Holten
Vietnam	Dr James Masson

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES

What was the highlight of your year volunteering with Interplast?



**Siddharth Karanth,
Surgeon**

"It was an amazing experience for me. Teamwork was at the heart of it. The concept of teaching and empowering our colleagues and their staff in these regions to manage plastic surgical issues using local materials and equipment is an excellent concept. It tries and tests us to deliver our best in challenging conditions and at the same time to set an example."



**Russell Corlett,
Surgeon**

"The greatest highlight of my whole time with Interplast, not just the past 12 months, was seeing that the plastic surgery team at Dhaka Medical College Hospital in Bangladesh are now running their own microsurgery training program and that, after three years of running training courses for them, they were now self-sufficient. We had "trained the trainers" and had done ourselves out of a job."



**Vernon Moo,
Anaesthetist**

"The highlights have always been when patients seen in previous years come back happily to have further surgery, such as those who come back to have their cleft palate repaired following a previous cleft lip surgery. The joy and gratitude expressed by the parents is always a humbling experience."



**Michael Henwood,
Nurse**

"Yangon General Hospital was definitely an eye-opener for me. There were a couple of things that warmed my heart during my first trip to Myanmar. I was worried whether I was doing enough and if the nurses I was training felt that the long days seemed never-ending, compared with their usual shorter shifts. However, it was sweet when one of the head nurses insisted on calling me 'teacher' even though she was my senior. She made a speech saying how grateful she and her staff were for the education I was providing them. One of the junior nurses gifted me a scarf she knitted for me to take back to "cold Melbourne." I have maintained a connection with some of the staff and am keen to go back to Yangon to see the progress and continue to grow our cross-cultural Melbourne-Yangon connection."



**Pip Tesselaar,
Nurse**

"I tried really hard to pinpoint a single highlight, but I think that actually being part of an Interplast team and joining the mission to Masbate this year was the highlight for me. As a first-timer who has been admiring the work of Interplast since I started plastics nursing, being given the opportunity to join a program and contribute something to the team and the program was a real dream come true. Even just meeting the patients and local staff and seeing the need first-hand, as well as the impact Interplast has on these communities, was nothing short of life-changing. Of course, there were memorable patients and little individual highlights along the way, but the whole experience was fantastic."



**Beth McNeish,
Hand Therapist**

"I was very fortunate to be part of a specialist team to Sri Lanka, to provide education in the areas of paediatric plastic and reconstructive surgery, and rehabilitation/therapy. We could not have asked for a better experience. Local surgeon Dr Thushan worked very hard and organised things beautifully at his end. We hit the ground running and worked tirelessly to do as much as we could in a short period. Our work and teaching was greatly appreciated at their end. I have confidence that the knowledge will be shared, and built upon, in Sri Lanka. We could see the tremendous benefit from previous Interplast teams' visits."

NOTICE
Resuscitation of waste
- Place disposal unit
in the raised bin
- Do not throw them
on the floor
Thank you
So in charge



A FIRST FOR THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Complex reconstructive surgery workshop



In April 2016, an Interplast training team delivered a three-day clinical skills workshop focused on complex reconstructive surgery. This was a first for medical training in Samoa, utilising the fantastic new facilities at the Tupua Tamasese Meaole Hospital in Apia.

With a 33-year history of delivering plastic surgical programs across the Pacific Islands, this workshop continued Interplast's initiative to increase local capacity in plastic and reconstructive surgical skills, by up-skilling the Pacific general surgeons. It is recognised that many plastic and reconstructive surgical skills are applicable across other specialties, and therefore there is a great benefit in delivering plastic surgical skills training for as many of the surgical trainees as possible. Interplast runs a number of workshops, at different levels, across the Pacific and in Australia & New Zealand – for junior and advanced surgeons.

Aside from the practical skills learned, the networking opportunities for the Pacific surgeons are of great importance – often these surgeons are working in isolation from their peers, and the opportunity to get together, discuss cases and challenges and build linkages is of immeasurable benefit. Likewise, developing close mentor-relationships with the visiting surgical faculty from Australia & New Zealand gives the

Pacific surgeons an additional network of professionals to call upon when they need advice or assistance.

Involving four volunteer surgeons from Australia & New Zealand and one Interplast-trained Fijian plastic surgeon as faculty, the team brought together 14 participants from countries across the Pacific Islands. Trainees came from the Cook Islands, Tonga, Fiji, Kiribati, Vanuatu, Samoa and the Solomon Islands. They have now returned home with the skills required to improve the quality of care for patients requiring complex surgical treatment.

The workshop consisted of practical, 'hands on' training, which focused on small-group tutorials and in-theatre training. The course featured lectures and tutorials, planning, team decision making about case selection, operating time to demonstrate skills, post-operative ward rounds, assessment and plans for ongoing aftercare. Three surgical cases were operated on during the workshop, to demonstrate practical skills. One case presented with multiple skin cancers on different parts of the body, which provided an excellent teaching case, as several different reconstructive techniques were required.

This was the first time that such a workshop, utilising patients as teaching cases, has been delivered in the Pacific Islands, with the course building on outcomes of a number of plastic surgical skills workshops delivered by Interplast and its volunteer surgeons since 2012 in Hobart, Auckland and Fiji.

This program was made possible through a Rotary Foundation Vocational Training Team grant, with the generous support of the Rotary Clubs of Ryde and Apia, — a first for Interplast.

"Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to attend this course – it was an experience to have learned new techniques and tips. I learned a lot, and will be able to demonstrate this in the near future"

– Dr Kolini Vaea, Tonga

"The workshop was organised to provide the transferring of skills from surgeons who are quite familiar with a procedure to surgeons who are not, simply because they do not have the ability yet at their workplace"

– Dr Ben Norris, volunteer

"I learned a lot from the course and it's another escalating skill gained which I now need to work on so that we can master the skills we were taught"

– Dr Kabiri Itaka, Kiribati

"Thank you so much for your help and for coming to our islands. This course has taught me a lot about how to handle soft tissues"

– Dr Shaun Mauiliu, Samoa

BUILDING TEAMS FOR SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES

Recognising the importance of allied health

Whilst the impact of plastic and reconstructive surgery to treat acquired or congenital conditions is life-changing in itself, the role of allied health services focused on pre-operative treatment, and post operative recovery and rehabilitation is fundamentally important to ensure that a patient has a good long-term surgical outcome.

Recognising the importance of allied health, including physiotherapy, speech therapy and occupational therapy, to the broader outcomes of its surgical and training programs, Interplast has been working towards building the capacity of local partners in the provision of allied health services relating to our surgical work.

Although we have been delivering allied health programs in countries including Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Laos, PNG and Fiji for a number of years, this year saw us expand the scope of these programs to a number of other countries in which we work – including Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands. These visits enabled our allied health volunteers to assess the capacity of local allied health staff, and identify opportunities for ongoing support and training, as well as providing clinical support to visiting and local surgical and allied health teams.

It's not just the post-operative rehabilitation in which allied health, such as physiotherapy and speech therapy, plays a crucial role. In many cases, treatment by these professions can reduce the need for surgery, or indeed avoid disability, in the first place.

Interplast volunteer physiotherapist Jenny Ball, used the example of treating burns to illustrate how training physiotherapists contributes to Interplast's broader surgical work.



"In the Pacific region a lot of people are burnt because they use kerosene lamps for lighting their houses and they use kerosene for cooking," she said. "What the surgeons in Suva are finding is that patients are presenting down the track with a lot of contractures. A contracture is when the skin becomes very tight, and they're not able to move their joints fully, so they're not able to work, look after family, and depending on where the burn occurred, sometimes they can't walk or can't lift their heads up. Contractures are a big issue but physiotherapists currently don't have the confidence to treat them."

Jenny explained that if a person with a burn injury received the right treatment immediately, including physiotherapy, it could prevent or minimise contractures, meaning the patient can resume normal life quite quickly, and often preventing the need for surgery by Interplast teams or local surgeons at a later date.

Similarly, Interplast has been delivering education in Solomon Islands which has included sending an Australian podiatrist to teach the local staff about diabetes and the

diabetic foot. Currently in Solomon Islands, as well as across much of the Pacific, many people end up having feet and legs amputated following poorly managed diabetic foot wounds, leaving them with a life of permanent disability.

If diabetes is properly managed and local medical and nursing staff are able to appropriately treat diabetic wounds, then these amputations may be entirely avoidable.

One key overarching theme which Interplast's allied health teams focus on is promoting and encouraging a 'team' approach to patient care, ensuring that appropriate referrals are taking place between the surgical and allied health teams, and that the importance of each area is understood by the various specialists. One such approach to this which has been adopted by Interplast's volunteers is to encourage the local allied health staff to visit the operating theatre when they can, to observe the surgery of their patients. This not only gives them a better understanding of the surgical treatment being undertaken, but opens up an additional avenue for communication between the local surgical and allied health teams, which will benefit the patient's long-term outcomes. Through demonstrating this 'team approach' amongst the visiting Interplast team, and encouraging it amongst the local team while Interplast is visiting, our volunteers are now reporting significant improvements in local referrals and treatment between visits.

Allied health professionals have an extensive role to play in the treatment of patients and Interplast remains committed to ensuring our local partners receive the best possible support from the world-class professionals within Australia and New Zealand.



Emmanuel's hand before surgery



Emmanuel recovering after his operation



Happily playing 3 weeks after his operation

A YOUNG LIFE CHANGED

Emmanuel's Story

Interplast first became aware of young Papua New Guinean, Emmanuel, in late 2014, when his father, Titus, made direct contact with our office by email. He told us of his son, who had been born in 2012 with a blood clot.

Although the clot was operated on at the hospital in his home town of Lae when Emmanuel was just two weeks old, complications relating to the surgery resulted in a wound which healed poorly and the scar contracted badly. His left hand was bent backwards against his wrist and Emmanuel was unable to use his hand or fingers.

Whilst he remained a bright and happy child, his parents were concerned about what his future would be like – a disability of this nature in PNG would have led to many challenges, including going to school, learning to write, obtaining employment and even social interaction.

In 2015, an Interplast team visiting Mt Hagen were able to assess Emmanuel and provide some further clinical information on his case. Later that year, communication between Interplast, Titus and our volunteer surgeons confirmed he could be treated when a team visited Lae early the following year.

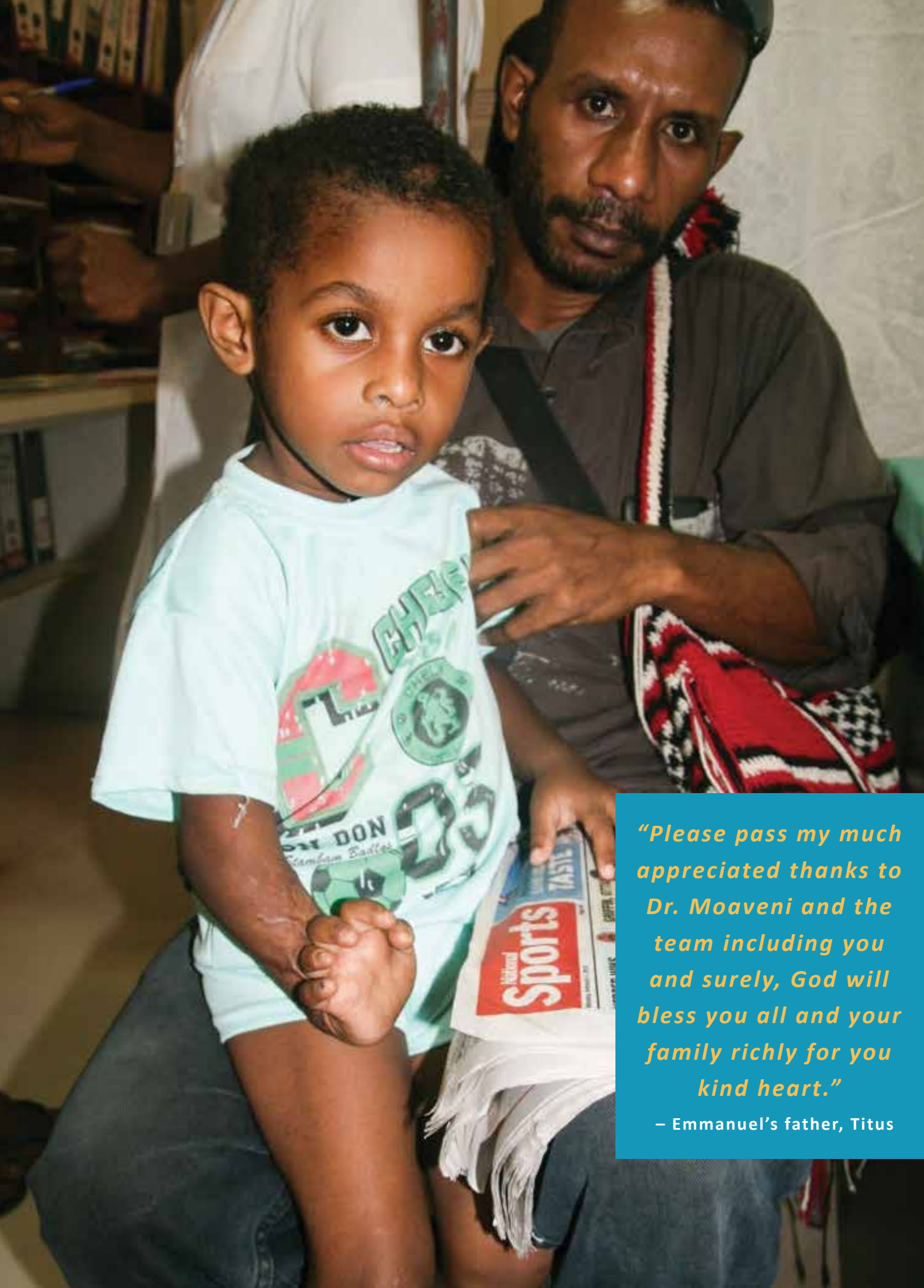
Upon arriving in Lae in February, the team, led by New Zealand plastic surgeon Dr Zac Moaveni, met Emmanuel and Titus and were satisfied that surgery would be able to make a difference in his life. He was scheduled for surgery the following day. Dr Moaveni noted: "Emmanuel had terrible contractures, probably the worst I have ever seen. I was guarded in my estimation of how much correction we could achieve."

The visiting team worked alongside local surgeons to release the scar contracture and repair the wound with a flap of skin taken from Emmanuel's

groin. The operation was a success, and the contractures were able to be almost entirely corrected.

Following his surgery, Emmanuel spent some weeks in hospital under the care of the local surgeons, before returning home. Titus has kept in touch with Interplast to keep us informed of his progress. He has returned regularly with Emmanuel for follow-up checks, and is receiving extensive physiotherapy to support and assist his recovery.

His impressive results are thanks to the highly skilled medical support offered by Interplast teams, and the long-term commitment to achieve this support through our local partnerships. Emmanuel and his parents are looking forward to a bright future.



"Please pass my much appreciated thanks to Dr. Moaveni and the team including you and surely, God will bless you all and your family richly for your kind heart."

– Emmanuel's father, Titus



YOUR SUPPORT CHANGES LIVES

Donors are shaping our future

Interplast is supported by a strong group of passionate supporters and donors who advocate on our behalf and raise much needed income to ensure the ongoing sustainability and success of our work. Their commitment to our mission, and encouragement of our teams is greatly appreciated. There is no doubt that we couldn't change futures without them.

We wish to acknowledge and pay tribute to:

Our private donors who ensure Interplast's financial security. This group of committed individuals are some of our strongest advocates. Their financial contribution directly impacts our work within the region and leads to improved health outcomes.

Major donors, many of who wish to remain anonymous. Individually, this cohort have been responsible for funding programs, scholarships and operational expenses to enhance our work.

A small yet diverse group of regular donors who provide funding on a monthly or quarterly basis. Their funding allows Interplast to plan a future, secure in the knowledge that funding is available as required.

The many community fundraisers who are supporting Interplast by delivering third party events, undertaking recognised sporting adventures and hosting fundraising activities in their local communities.

Staff from some of Australia's best-known corporations who regularly contribute to our work through workplace giving and payroll gift schemes. Like other regular donors, these individuals offer long-term sustainability through their generous contributions.

In addition to supporters outlined above, during FY2015/16 Interplast has benefited from a number of legacy gifts provided through wills and bequests. The impact of leaving a gift of this nature should never be



underestimated. We are most appreciative of the individuals and families who think of Interplast during a time of sadness.

Finally, to all those who supported Interplast events and campaigns such as Eureka Climb, Turia's Kokoda Trek, our Medical Equipment Box Crowdfunding initiative, the annual Tax Appeal or other funding requests, we offer our greatest thanks.

The contribution of all donors, event partners and our wider network of financial supporters allows us to undertake our work. Words can never truly articulate your positive impact!

PARTNERING FOR SUCCESS

Interplast is supported by some of Australia and New Zealand's most recognisable corporate and philanthropic partners.



Interplast's corporate and philanthropic partners offer support by:

Providing funding for program activities

Sponsoring events and campaigns

Delivering pro bono support and expertise

Gifting equipment and resources, either in-kind or at heavily reduced costs.

Most importantly, many of Interplast's corporate and philanthropic partners spread news of our work to their extended networks. The power of their networks has significantly benefited Interplast throughout the 2015/16 period

For their ongoing support and commitment to making a positive difference, we thank:

ANZ Trustees

Avant

B.Braun

Brian Bell Group

Bright Blue – Police Commissioner's Foundation for Sick Kids

Cabrini Health

Clifford Hallam Healthcare

Dynamiq

Eat Fit Food

Filminera Resources Corporation

Flexicar

Galderma

Goldman Sachs Gives

Johnson & Johnson Medical

Minter Ellison

MoniPlus

Mountain Designs

OPC Health

Peak Appearance

Perpetual

Phu Bia Mining

Portland House

Spellbrook Foundation

Stryker

The Marketing Company

Therapist Support Laboratory (TSL)

In addition to the above businesses and foundations, we wish to acknowledge the suppliers and individuals with whom we regularly work, many of whom go above and beyond for us. Although there are too many to mention by name, we wish to particularly acknowledge – GFM Removals, Egg Creative, Ability Press, Ripple Village Marketing, Murphy Davis Consulting, Collective Spark, Sandy Abbott, Clinical Imaging Australia and Dr Alan Street.

Furthermore we wish to acknowledge support of airlines including Air Niugini, Air Pacific, Druk Air, Emirates, Qantas and Virgin Australia.



VALUED PARTNERS, WORKING TOGETHER

Key to Interplast's work is the belief that the greatest outcomes for our in-country partners and patients are achieved through collaboration

Interplast is proud to work alongside a range of like-minded partners, committed to achieving quality outcomes within the Asia Pacific region. As an organisation, we actively seek opportunities to partner with others to make the best use of resources, and to avoid the duplication of services.

As part of our commitment to best practice and continuous quality improvement, we have signed agreements in place with many partners that articulate the relationship, roles and responsibilities, and how we will work together.

During this reporting period, we wish to acknowledge the following for their support:

Australian and New Zealand Burn Association (ANZBA)

Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA)

Australian Hand Surgery Society (AHSS)

Australian Society of Anaesthetists (ASA)

Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS)

Children First Foundation

Lifebox Foundation

New Zealand Association of Plastic Surgeons (NZAPS)

New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists (NZSA)

Overseas Specialist Surgical Association of Australia (OSSAA)

Plastic Surgery Foundation (PSF)

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS)

Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children (ROMAC)

Rotary New Zealand World Service Limited (RNZWCS)

We especially wish to acknowledge those hospitals in Australia and New Zealand which support us in many ways – from providing leave to our volunteers engaged by them, to sharing crucial training resources, donating medical equipment and other supplies, and hosting international medical trainees.

This collaboration, ongoing support and unwavering encouragement is key to our achievements. All at Interplast are grateful for these strong and lasting relationships.



INTERPLAST AMBASSADOR

Thanks to Turia Pitt's unwavering support of Interplast, so many people across the Asia Pacific region have received life-changing surgery.



In her capacity as ambassador, Turia supports Interplast by personally hosting events, speaking, and leading fundraising adventures. Through this work, along with her support for other Interplast fundraising initiatives, Turia has directly and indirectly contributed to more than \$1 million being raised to support our work.

Having been told at the time of suffering burns to 65% of her body that she may never run again, Turia proved everyone wrong when she completed her first Ironman event in May 2016. Participating to support the work of Interplast, Turia raised more than \$55,000 during the gruelling event.

Weeks after the Ironman challenge, in June this year, Turia Pitt led a team of 26 people on a nine-day trek over the Kokoda Track to raise funds for Interplast. This inspiring team of trekkers raised over \$330,000 for our ongoing work.

Turia's commitment to Interplast is outstanding and we are proud to recognise her as our official ambassador. She is an inspiration to many and we are delighted that she continues to work towards repairing bodies and rebuilding lives.

Turia's Kokoda Trek for Interplast

Joining Turia Pitt on the Kokoda Trek was Interplast staff member, Laura Nicholson.

Laura jumped at the chance to join Turia on the trek. "I've always wanted to do Kokoda since I was in high school," she said. "My school did a trip, but I was too young."

Laura said the experience of walking 96km over nine days was far more challenging than she expected, but the team unity that developed helped everyone to get through. One particular moment stands out for her.

"One day we had to climb up three peaks and go down four steep inclines over about 11 hours. The third peak would have to be the hardest thing I've ever walked up in my life," Laura said. "It was just vertical, and everyone was exhausted. But as each person made it to the top, the whole group would clap and cheer. It was just so nice. You didn't know these people a few days beforehand, and everyone was just so excited that you'd made it."

"One person was really struggling that day. The trek leaders said that usually we'd wait for everyone, but we could just move on to the next camp otherwise we'd be waiting a long time for the final person. Everyone refused to move, insisting that we wait for the last person, celebrate their achievement as a team, and move on together. That really struck me – the feeling that we're all in this together."

Laura said that sharing the trek with Turia was a special part of the experience.

"She's really thoughtful, always keeping tabs on people, on where they were, how they were going. If she felt that someone was struggling she would just drop back and spend some time with them. She's really aware of other people. She's really fun, really good at bringing people together and she's great at putting things in perspective for you."

PARTNERS FROM THE BEGINNING



Interplast Australia & New Zealand is actively supported by Rotarians in Clubs and Districts throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Recognising the importance of Rotary

Rotarians were there in the beginning. They've been a constant throughout the decades and they're very much a part of Interplast's bright future.

Integrally involved in the establishment of Interplast in 1983 with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Interplast is supported by Rotarians in clubs and districts throughout Australia and New Zealand. A central thread throughout the organisation, Rotarians are equal members of the Company, have equal representation on the Board of Directors and form the Rotarian Committee, which advises the Executive and Board on Rotary matters. Rotarians are as much a part of Interplast as our skilled medical teams.

As in previous years, Rotary has been a valued supporter of Interplast. Rotarians at all levels, raise significant funds for the organisation, champion the cause, and promote our work amongst their vast networks. Interplast truly values the support and encouragement received through our Rotarian partners.

Once again, Rotary has been a strong financial supporter of Interplast,

contributing significant funds towards our overseas programs and initiatives. Support from individual Rotarians, clubs and districts continues to grow year on year. Together, we are changing lives.

Through the Rotary network, Interplast is able to share stories, celebrate successes and keep the wider community informed of the life-changing work undertaken by volunteer medical teams across the Asia Pacific region.

To every Rotarian who has supported Interplast during 2015/16, thank you. To those who take on the role of Interplast District Chair (IDC), we offer our greatest thanks. This team of dedicated volunteers give of their time, passion and talent to promote Interplast and support local clubs with their Interplast-related activities. Spread across Australia and New Zealand, the IDC network is truly part of the strong Interplast team.

Equally important to the ongoing success of Interplast is the Rotarian Committee. Comprised of past District Governors from across Australia and New Zealand, this group meets regularly to advise the Board

and support the staff on matters related to Rotary. During 2015/16, the Rotarian Committee finalised a dedicated 'Rotary Engagement Plan' that will result in greater engagement with clubs and districts by Interplast.

Finally, to those Rotarians who travelled with Interplast teams as observers; either this year or previously, don't ever underestimate the enormous impact you have as some of our strongest advocates. You've personally witnessed the positive impact of our teams within the region. You have seen how Rotary funding and advocacy has helped put skilled professionals on the ground. Most significantly, you've seen the smiles that come from patients and their families, who are offered life-changing outcomes as a direct result of your support. Keep telling your story so together we can have even greater impact.

Rotary and its members have always been part of our strongest network of supporters. We look forward to continuing that tradition for years to come.



ROTARY DONATIONS FOR 2015/16

DISTRICT 9455

Balcatta
Batavia Coast
Corrigin
Crawley
East Perth
Freshwater Bay
Geraldton-Greenough
Kalamunda
Karrinyup
Morley
Mosman Park
Mundaring
Nedlands
Northam
Northbridge - WA
Osborne Park
Perth
Swan Districts
Welshpool
West Perth
10 Individuals
4 Businesses

DISTRICT 9465

Kenwick
Margaret River
Mill Point
Pinjarra
Rockingham
Rossmoyne
South Perth Burswood
Wagin
24 Individuals
57 Businesses

DISTRICT 9520

Flagstaff Hill
Goolwa
McLaren Vale
Noarlunga
Red Cliffs
Robinvale Euston
2 Individuals

DISTRICT 9550

Ayr
Cairns

DISTRICT 9570

Boyne Tannum
Bundaberg
Calliope

Gladstone
Gladstone Midday
Gladstone Port Curtis
Gladstone Sunrise
Maryborough QLD
Monto
Rockhampton North
South Gladstone
Walkerston

DISTRICT 9600

Boroko
1 Individual

DISTRICT 9630

Brisbane Centenary
Cleveland
Ipswich City

DISTRICT 9640

Ashmore
Ballina-On-Richmond
Runaway Bay

DISTRICT 9650

Gunnedah
Tamworth
Tamworth West
Wauchope

DISTRICT 9670

Cobar
East Maitland
Morisset

DISTRICT 9675

Blacktown City
Bulli and Northern
Illawarra
Camden
Campbelltown NSW
Como-Jannali
Corrimal
Dapto
Fairy Meadow
Gymea
Hurstville
Illawarra Sunrise
Kings Cross
Macarthur Sunrise
Maroubra
Minnamurra
Shellharbour City
St George Central

Sutherland
Sylvania
Wallacia-Mulgoa Valley
West Wollongong
10 Individuals

DISTRICT 9680

Lower Blue Mountains
Northbridge - NSW
Ryde
Upper Blue Mountains
Sunrise
1 Individual

DISTRICT 9700

Blayney
Cowra
Lockhart
Wagga Wagga
Wagga Wagga Sunrise

DISTRICT 9710

Batemans Bay
Cooma
Gerrigong Sunrise
Milton Ulladulla
Pambula
1 Individual

DISTRICT 9780

Alfredton
Ararat
Ballarat East
Ballarat West
Beaufort
Cobden
Colac West
Geelong East
Geelong West
Hamilton North
Highton
Highton Kardinia
Horsham East
Kerang
Millicent
Ocean Grove
Port Fairy
Portland
Portland Bay
Terang
Torquay
Warrnambool
Warrnambool Central

Warrnambool Daybreak
Warrnambool East
Wendouree
Wendouree Breakfast
3 Individuals

DISTRICT 9790

Albury North
Benalla
Bright
Lavington
Preston
Shepparton
1 Individual

DISTRICT 9800

Albert Park
Brighton VIC
Central Melbourne-Sunrise
Chadstone-East Malvern
Keilor
Keilor East
Malvern
Melbourne
Toorak
5 Individuals

DISTRICT 9810

Bayswater
Beaumaris
Box Hill
Cheltenham
Clayton
Dingley Village
Doncaster
Emerald & District Inc.
Ferntree Gully
Forest Hill
Glen Waverley
Hampton
Healesville
Lilydale
Manningham
Mitcham VIC
Monash
Mont Albert & Surrey Hills
Mordialloc
Nunawading
Oakleigh
Ringwood
Rowville Lysterfield

Warrandyte Donvale
Rotary eClub of Greater Melbourne
22 Individuals

DISTRICT 9810W

Monbulk and District
Wandin
18 Individuals

DISTRICT 9820

Berwick
Casey
Koo Wee Rup-Lang Lang
Mitchell River
Pakenham
Seaford-Carrum Downs
Yarram
1 Individual

DISTRICT 9830

Bellerive
Evandale
Hobart
Howrah
Huon Valley
Latrobe
Launceston West
Salamanca
Sandy Bay
Smithton
Tamar Sunrise
Ulverstone
Wynyard

DISTRICT 9930

Havelock North
Otomoetai
Thames

DISTRICT 9940

South Wairarapa

A number of clubs and districts have made a significant financial contribution which has been directly applied to specific overseas programs.

Full details:
www.interplast.org.au

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Income statement for the year ended 30 June 2016

REVENUE	2016 (\$)	2015 (\$)
Donations and gifts – monetary	1,443,532	1,307,486
Donations and gifts - non-monetary	74,955	103,494
Legacies and bequests	5,649	107,895
Grants		
- DFAT	448,301	300,000
- Other Australian - RACS	94,976	191,175
- Other Australian	167,711	220,535
- Other Overseas	184,829	129,188
Investment Income	74,926	80,770
Other Income	385	-
Revenue for International Political or Religious Adherence Programs	-	-
Total Revenue	2,495,264	2,440,543
EXPENSES		
International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure		
International projects		
- Funds to international projects	1,037,061	1,042,099
- Program support costs	324,881	327,476
Community education	107,127	119,776
Inventory Revaluation	-	9,488
Fundraising costs		
- Public	282,910	361,906
- Government, multilateral and private sector	69,999	53,320
- Community Supporter	-	66,081
Accountability and Administration	520,807	368,662
Non-monetary expenditure	69,578	64,351
Expenses for International Political or Religious Adherence		
Promotion Programs	-	-
Domestic Program Expenditure	-	1,000
Total Expenses	2,412,363	2,414,159
EXCESS FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS	82,901	26,384

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Balance sheet as at 30 June 2016

ASSETS	2016 (\$)	2015 (\$)
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	3,001,492	2,633,097
Trade and other receivables	74,909	94,683
Inventories	20,167	18,422
Assets held for sale	-	-
Other financial assets	88,767	71,820
Total current assets	3,185,335	2,818,022
NON CURRENT ASSETS		
Trade and other receivables	-	-
Other financial assets	-	-
Property, plant and equipment	71,059	119,060
Investment property	-	-
Intangibles	-	-
Other non-current assets	-	-
Total non current assets	71,059	119,060
TOTAL ASSETS	3,256,394	2,937,088
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	96,125	48,069
Borrowings	-	53
Current tax liabilities	-	-
Other financial liabilities	-	-
Provisions	848,114	666,033
Other	-	-
Total current liabilities	944,239	714,155
Non current liabilities		
Borrowings	-	-
Other financial liabilities	-	-
Provisions	12,692	6,371
Other	-	-
Total non current liabilities	12,692	6,371
Total liabilities	956,931	720,526
Net assets	2,299,463	2,216,562
EQUITY		
Reserves	500,000	500,000
Funds available for future use	1,799,463	1,716,562
TOTAL EQUITY	2,299,463	2,216,562

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Summary of Cash Movements for the Year Ended 30 June 2016

	Cash Available at Beginning of Financial Year	Cash Raised During Financial Year	Cash Disbursed During Financial Year	Cash Available at End of Financial Year
Funds held for future programs - other	267,672	925,610	793,268	400,014
Funds held for future programs - Rotary	323,095	219,835	158,963	383,967
Total for other purposes	2,042,277	1,562,700	1,387,466	2,217,511
TOTAL	2,633,044	2,708,145	2,339,697	3,001,492

Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 30 June 2016

	RETAINED EARNINGS (\$)	GENERAL RESERVE (\$)	TOTAL (\$)
Balance at 1 July 2014	1,690,178	500,000	2,190,178
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	26,384	-	26,384
Balance at 1 July 2015	1,716,562	500,000	2,216,562
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	82,901	-	82,901
Balance at 1 July 2016	1,799,463	500,000	2,299,463

Recognised Development Expenditure: Value of Volunteer Services

The value of volunteer services is not included in the accounts. However for the purposes of claiming DFAT Recognised Development Expenditure the following information has been prepared in accordance with the rates approved by DFAT.

Australian volunteers for the year ended 30 June 2016:

77 Specialists for a total of 783 days – Medical Officer 4	488,991
39 Nurses – Allied Health specialists for a total of 577 days – APS Level 5	169,503
ACTUAL TOTAL VALUE OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES	658,494

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



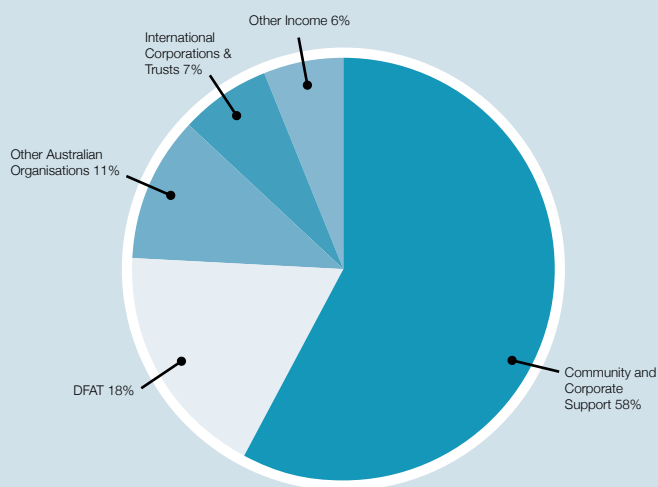
The Summary financial reports have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code, please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Guidance document available at www.acfid.asn.au

This financial report is a summarised version of our full financial report. Copies of our 2015/16 audited financial report, including the Director's Report, can be found at www.interplast.org.au or by contacting the office on 03 9249 1231.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Financial Summary for the Year Ended 30 June 2016

Where the money comes from



INCOME	TOTALS
Community and Corporate Support	\$1,449,181
DFAT	\$448,301
Other Australian Organisations	\$262,687
International Corporations & Trusts	\$184,829
Other Income	\$150,266
TOTAL SUPPORT	\$2,495,264

Community & Corporate Support: Income received from the Australian public, Rotary and corporations in the form of public donations, fundraising and bequests.

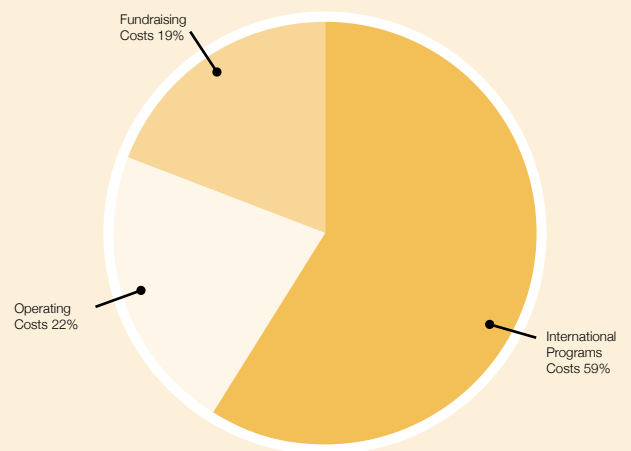
DFAT: Grants received directly from the DFAT - Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

Other Australian Organisations: Income received from other Australian organisations, trusts and foundations including the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons as part of DFAT's funding via the Pacific Islands Program.

International Corporations & Trusts: Income received from overseas corporations & trusts.

Other Income: Income received from in-kind donations, interest and other.

Where the money is spent



COSTS	TOTALS
International Programs Costs	\$1,431,520
Operating Costs	\$520,807
Fundraising Costs	\$460,036
TOTAL COSTS	\$2,412,363

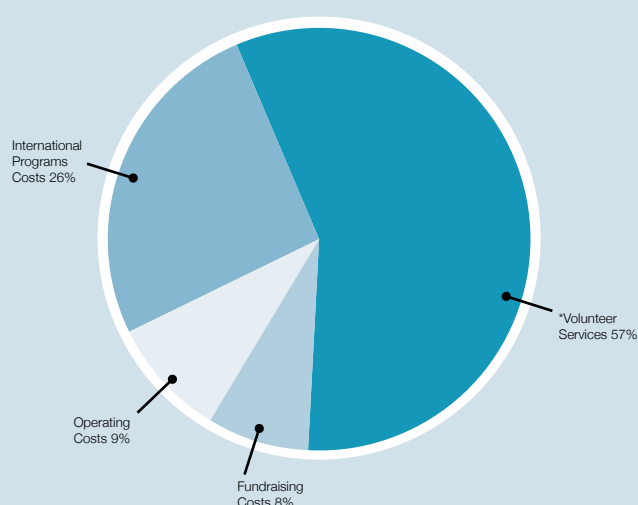
International Programs Costs: Includes all expenses and support costs associated with our country programs.

Operating Costs: Covers administrative and other costs inherent in running an organisation, including staff time in the areas such as finance, program co-ordination and administration, insurance premiums, office supplies, consultancy fees and other running costs.

Fundraising Costs: Costs associated with attracting more support through donations, sponsorships and community awareness. This includes costs such as staff time, events, advertising, mail-outs, website, and the processing of donations.

* further details are available in our full financials which can be accessed at www.interplast.org.au

The real value is priceless



COSTS

*Volunteer Services

39 Nurses and allied health specialists for a total of 621 days
77 Surgeons and anaesthetists for a total of 861 days

TOTALS

\$3,201,188

\$489,037

\$2,712,150

International Programs Costs \$1,431,520

Operating Costs \$520,807

Fundraising Costs \$460,036

TOTAL COSTS

\$5,613,551

*** Volunteer Services:** The value of volunteer services reported in the financial accounts is based on rates determined by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), which given the highly specialised nature of our volunteers is a significant underestimation. The above figures represent a more realistic, although still conservative, value based on public sector rates. This chart represents the real impact if Interplast had to pay for this invaluable expertise.

The above figure represents all Australian and New Zealand medical volunteers utilised by Interplast.

55.5%



Were Male Patients

44.5%



Were Female Patients

85 YEARS OLD



Our Oldest Patient

2 MONTHS OLD



Our Youngest Patient

70%
OF PATIENTS



Below the age of 18

THE INTERPLAST TEAM

Interplast's success arises from the dedication and talent of the wider Interplast team. In addition to our medical volunteers and Country Coordinators, the Board of Directors, Committee Members and Staff are all highly skilled and passionate about the work of Interplast.

Company Membership

During the period of this report, the Company Membership has been constituted as follows:

Dr Michael McGlynn OAM

MBBS FRACS

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Nominee

Mr Keith Mutimer

MBBS FRACS

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Nominee

Professor David Watters

MB ChB FRCS (Edinburgh)
FRACS

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Nominee

PDG Anne Brand OAM

District 9630

Rotarian Nominee

PDG Brian Guest

District 9465

Rotarian Nominee

PDG Kel Hobby

District 9820

Rotarian Nominee

The Hon. Dr Kay Patterson AO

PhD BA (Hons) Dip. Ed. MAPsS
GAID

Independent Nominee

Board Of Directors

Mr David Inglis

Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Laws

President

Dr Michael McGlynn OAM

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, Fellow Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.

Vice President

(retired in November 2015)

The Hon Dr Kay Patterson AO

Bachelor of Arts (Hons 1), Diploma of Education, Doctor of Philosophy, Member of the Australian Psychological Society, Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Vice President

(retired in November 2015)

Mr Keith Mutimer

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, Fellow Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Vice President

(appointed November 2015)

Mr John Georgakis

Bachelor of Business (Accounting), Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants.

Treasurer & Vice President

(Vice President from

November 2015)

Mr Brian Guest

Company Management, Company Director

Secretary

Professor Mark Ashton

Doctorate of Medicine, Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, Fellow Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Director

Ms Andrea Coote

Bachelor of Arts

Director

Ms Marie Dorrington

Bachelor of Arts, Diploma of Education, Diploma of Teaching.

Director

Dr Rowan Gillies

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, Bachelor of Science, Fellow Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Director

Associate Professor Michael Leung

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, Fellow Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Director (appointed June 2015)

Mr Michael Stillwell

Master of Business Administration, Masters of Marketing, Diploma of Business, Fellow Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Director (retired November 2015)

Mr Paul Sundberg

Bachelor of Economics (Honors), Chartered Accountant FCA

Director

Ms Hayley Morris

Bachelor of Arts (Communication)

Director

Patron

Professor Donald R Marshall AM – MBMS FRACS FACS

Executive Committee

The Committee consisting of the President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer meets as required.

Audit & Risk Committee

The objective of the Audit & Risk Committee is to assist the Board of Directors to discharge its corporate governance responsibilities in relation to the financial affairs and compliance with regulatory requirements.

- Mr Paul Sundberg (Chair)
- Mr John Georgakis
- Dr Michael McGlynn
- Mr Keith Mutimer



Surgical Committee

The Surgical Committee assists the Board of Directors to discharge its corporate governance responsibilities to exercise due care, diligence and skill in relation to surgical and medical issues involved in the implementation of program activities.

- Professor Mark Ashton (co-Chair)
- Associate Professor Michael Leung (co-Chair)
- Mr Chris Bennett
- Mr Ian Carlisle
- Ms Gillian Dickinson
- Ms Angela Doherty
- Dr Ian Hogarth
- Mr Ian Holten
- Mr Nick Houseman
- Mr Damian Ireland
- Mr James Leong
- Mr Peter Maloney
- Dr David Pescod
- Mr Anand Ramakrishnan
- Ms Leonie Simmons

The Rotarian Committee

Provides professional advice and assistance to the Board of Directors in relation to all matters pertaining to our relationship with Rotary Clubs and Districts across Australia and New Zealand.

- PDG Brian Guest (Chair)
- PDG John Barnes -D9810
- PDG Anne Brand OAM - D9630
- PDG Marie Dorrington - D9500
- PDG Kel Hobby - D9820
- PDG Peter Murfett - D9830
- PDG Peter Signal - D9930
- PDG Murray Verso - D9800 (from October 2015)
- PDG Glen Wrann - D9675 (February 2016)

Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group

The Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group has an increased role in providing professional advice and assistance to Interplast in monitoring and evaluation all Interplast's activities and functions.

- Ms Prue Ingram (Chair)
- Ms Jess Hill
- Ms Julia Keating (until July 2015)
- Mr Thomas Loporito
- Ms Anne-Marie Maher
- Dr Ross Sutton

Nurse Working Group

The Nurse Working Group provides clinical and educational advice and assistance to Interplast on the development and evaluation of Interplast nurse education activities. This is an increasing area of focus for the organisation.

- Ms Leonie Simmons (Chair)
- Ms Annette McLeod
- Ms Nadine Gray
- Mr Dave Hustler
- Ms Jo Oxbrow
- Mrs Linda Ferguson
- Ms Daisy Sargeant
- Ms Chris Hunter
- Ms Jan Rice
- Ms Angela Doherty
- Ms Jill Dickinson
- Ms Jess Hill
- Mr Thomas Loporito

Allied Health Working Group

The Allied Health Working Group (previously the Hand Therapy Working Group) provides clinical and educational advice and assistance to Interplast on the development and evaluation of Interplast program activities that include components of hand therapy, physiotherapy and burns rehabilitation. This is an increasing area of focus for the organisation

- Ms Jess Hill (Chair)
- Ms Jane Aarons
- Ms Jennifer Ball (Allied Health Coordinator - Pacific)
- Ms Yvonne Fellner
- Ms Diana Francis
- Ms Sharon Goldby (Allied Health Coordinator - Asia)
- Ms Alison Hardman
- Ms Kylie Harrison
- Ms Penny McMahon
- Ms Beth McNeish
- Ms Kathy Minchin
- Ms Lisa O'Brien
- Ms Katie Anjou
- Ms Sarah Florisson
- Ms Megan Fitzgerald

Interplast Staff

Prue Ingram
Chief Executive Officer

Phyllis Bell
Equipment Assistant

Di Gillies
Rotarian Coordinator

Jess Hill
Program Manager

Madeleine Jones
Project Officer

Cathy Kirwan
Fundraising and Communication Manager (until August 2015)

Christina Leslie
Finance Assistant

Thomas Loporito
Program Activities Coordinator

Anne-Marie Maher
Finance Manager

Laura Nicholson
Executive Assistant

Felicity O'Meara
Community Fundraising & Events Coordinator

Noreen McGrath
Program Activities Coordinator (from October 2015)

Joelle Metcalf
Database Coordinator

Julia Keating
Program Activities Coordinator (until July 2015)

Leonie Simmons
Equipment and Supplies Coordinator

Fhon Williams
Program Activities Officer

Lisa Zilberpriver
Communications Coordinator (until March 2016)

THE IMPORTANCE OF QUALITY NURSING CARE

Nurse Training Initiatives

The importance of quality nursing care is fundamental to ensure good surgical outcomes. Even with the best of surgeons performing an operation, if the patient isn't appropriately prepared for surgery or cared for during and after their procedure, even the highest quality operation may fail.

From basic skills such as hand hygiene, dressings and handling surgical instruments through to complex wound management, recognising and responding to a deteriorating patient and managing an operating theatre, the skills delivered to local nurses through our programs have wide-reaching impact, both in terms of patient outcomes and on the broader medical profession.

Since Interplast sent its first program to Samoa in 1983, educating local nurses has been an important component of our surgical and training programs – whether through formal workshops, informal peer-based knowledge transfers, our volunteer nurses are committed to supporting local nursing personnel.

In the 2016 financial year, Interplast delivered a number of stand-alone nurse education programs, as well as including nurse education within all surgical visits. Specific nurse education was delivered in Solomon Islands, Myanmar, Kiribati, Fiji, Bangladesh and Papua New Guinea.

In Solomon Islands, Interplast introduced breast care into its existing nurse education programs, which included diabetes management, podiatry and general ward nursing. Breast cancer is an emerging major public health issue in the Solomon Islands, where patients tend to present

very late, and as a result, there is little that can be done in terms of treatment. In response to local partner requests, Interplast included breast care nurse educators with its programs this year. These educators have provided teaching to medical and nursing personnel, as well as the general community, around breast self-assessment and the importance of early diagnosis.

In Kiribati, where Interplast has delivered two ward-nurse education visits this year, visiting educators have noted a growing enthusiasm and willingness from local nurses to advocate for their patients. In an environment where nurses often struggle to have their opinions heard in the medical hierarchy, we were thrilled to receive an email from one local nurse who told us of her confidence and advocacy skills as a result of the Interplast training she had attended. She provided an account of how these skills had impacted on her confidence and skills in performing CPR, proudly recalling how she had stepped in when a mother undergoing an emergency caesarean had shown signs of deterioration. "It was me who initiated CPR," she recounts. "I was the one performing it. I wasn't waiting for the doctor to give an order; I just jumped in and did it. And I was proud. I did it for the sake of my patient. I recalled you teaching me and making me do it again and again until I was good."

In Myanmar, where Interplast has been delivering advanced plastic surgical training for a number of years, it was noted that there were gaps in post-operative care, and



it was requested that our programs include ward nurse education, focused around improving recognition and care of the deteriorating patient. This year, a number of projects have taken place towards this goal. Firstly three separate ward-nurse education visits have taken place alongside the surgical training, where a nurse educator from Australia has delivered direct training and mentoring to the ward nurses of the Department of Plastic, Maxillofacial and Oral Surgery at the Yangon General Hospital. Complementing this, a scholarship supported Nurse San Maw, a senior ward nurse from the YGH to spend six weeks in Melbourne, hosted by Interplast volunteer nurses at the Alfred and Dandenong Hospitals, where she was able to learn first-hand the processes and protocols followed in Australia relating to post-operative care.



In the 2016 financial year, Interplast delivered a number of stand-alone nurse education programs, as well as including nurse education within all surgical visits. Specific nurse education was delivered in the Solomon Islands, Myanmar, Kiribati, Fiji, Bangladesh and Papua New Guinea.

Following the return of Nurse Maw to Yangon, the next visiting Interplast training team to YGH noted a “major and impressive cultural shift occurring in relation to ward nursing,” including substantial improvements in the facilities for caring for post-operative major cases, and a broad recognition and willingness from

local nursing staff to appropriately monitor patients.

In Bangladesh, in response to local partner requests for assistance in training local nurses in burns care, Interplast delivered a nurse education program this year, which took place at the Dhaka Medical College

Hospital (DMCH) Plastic Surgery & Burns Unit. Despite its capacity of 100 beds, this hospital regularly has 300-400 patients at any one time, and so skills in wound management and infection control are particularly crucial to minimise poor patient outcomes. This program included nurses from DMCH as well as several nurses who Interplast supported to join the program from Nepal. Additionally, surgeons, medical registrars and allied health therapists attend the program to support their nursing colleagues.

Although primarily known for its commitment to reconstructive and plastic surgery, Interplast has developed a reputation for leading the way in building capacity of local partners. Working closely with nurses will further strengthen health outcomes; something we are all aiming for.

WE'RE ACCOUNTABLE

COMPLIANCE AND REGULATION

Interplast operates in a highly regulated environment, with laws, regulations, licences and codes of conduct that we need to comply with to ensure we remain accountable to the community.

ASIC, ACNC & ATO

As a public company limited by guarantee and a registered charity, Interplast is required to comply with the regulations of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) and the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC) Act 2012. This includes complying with Australian Accounting standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) has given Interplast the status of a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR), granted exemption from Income Tax and provided concession for Fringe Benefits Tax and GST. Reporting requirements comprise mainly annual fringe benefits tax returns, quarterly Business Activity Statements and monthly Pay-as-you-go (PAYG) submissions.

DFAT ACCREDITATION

Interplast holds full accreditation as an NGO from the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). As part of this accreditation, Interplast receives funding through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

Our accreditation is maintained through a rigorous process by DFAT that is undertaken every five years, involving an in-depth assessment of our management capacity, systems, operations and linkages with the Australian community against a set of agreed criteria.

Accreditation ensures the transparent and accountable use of funding, and covers our entire portfolio including non-development activities and activities not funded by DFAT.

ACFID

Interplast is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. ACFID is the peak body for aid and international development NGOs and its code of conduct upholds the highest standards of ethics, effectiveness and accountability. For further information on the Code, please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Guidance Document available at: acfid.asn.au. Complaints relating to a breach of the ACFID Code of Conduct, by an ACFID member can be made at the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee (www.acfid.asn.au/code-of-conduct/complaints).

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising licenses are required by all states in Australia in order to raise funds within their borders. Interplast holds all required licenses and complies with the requirements associated with these licenses, which includes such conditions as providing extra reporting to particular states. Interplast is a member of the Fundraising Institute of Australia (FIA) and as such abides by the Code of Conduct.

COMPLAINTS

Interplast has a process for handling any complaints. The complaints policy and process can be found on our website at: www.interplast.org.au. If you wish to lodge a complaint about Interplast email contactus@interplast.org.au, phone our office on 03 9249 1231 or mail the principal office listed on the back cover.

REGISTERED OFFICE

Minter Ellison Lawyers
Level 23
Rialto Towers
525 Collins Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

BANKERS

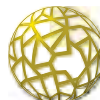
Westpac

ABN

59 006 155 193



Interplast Australia & New Zealand is actively supported by Rotarians in Clubs and Districts throughout Australia and New Zealand.



ACFID
MEMBER

Proudly supported by the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) and New Zealand Association of Plastic Surgeons (NZAPS).

REGISTERED



CONNECT WITH US



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Repairing bodies & rebuilding lives
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